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Church worship : in
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CHURCH WORSHIP: IN READINGS, SONGS AND PRAYERS

[by James Vila Blake, comp.]

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917 West Monroe Street,

CHICAGO, May 1, 1892.

To the Ministers and our Brethren:

In sending you a copy of the Book of Worship which has grown up in our church, we add this letter explanatory of our own manner of using it; because we have impressed our own form as little as possible on the book itself.

In the most general statement of it our Order is:

I. The ASSEMBLING, with Scripture and Hymn.

II. The Sermon.

III. The PARTING, with Prayer.

In detail this Order is followed thus:

1. The Organ Voluntary.

2. The Minister reads one of the brief discourses, or spoken *Introits*, p. 7. He begins always with the first paragraph, printed in *text*, then adds one of the three following paragraphs, and ends always with the last paragraph, printed in *text;* so that the *Introit* begins and ends in the same way every Sunday, but is varied by choosing from the optional portions between the beginning and ending.

3. The Congregation then rises, and joins with the Minister in the spoken and sung Responses, pp. 8 and 9. At the points marked *Minister's Response*, the Minister answers with words, a sentence or brief paragraph, carefully chosen or prepared by him beforehand. Herein it is hoped that the benefit of repetition on the one hand, and of variety on the other, will be attained. This is a portion of the service which we have enjoyed greatly and found very profitable; and it occasions no trouble; we know easily, by manner and tone and by the meaning, when the Minister has ended his Response and the people are to read their next words. At the close of these responses, after the music on p. 9, the Minister reads one of the sentences on pp. 10 and 11, numbered I.-XVI. These are taken from the Choral Responses which follow, pp. 13-27. The sentence which the Minister reads indicates to the people by its number what Choral Response will follow. The Congregation then sits again.

4. Reading of Scripture.

5. Choral Response, pp. 13-27, *unannounced*, no announcement being necessary because the number of the Choral Response to follow the Scripture-reading has been indicated already, as stated above. This it is found occasions no trouble. It requires from the people only due care and attention to the service, and due kindness and courtesy to any strangers who may be present, to find the place for them. It is well for the people to find the Choral Response at once when indicated by the sentence read by the Minister, as above stated, and retain the book open at that place during the reading of the Scripture.

6. Hymn.

This ends THE ASSEMBLING. In our own custom the Offertory is placed here.

7. The Sermon.

8. After the Sermon follows Organ Music, running finally into one of the Choral Hymns, pp. 31-39. These ten hymns soon become so familiar that they need no announcement, the music being recognized from the Organ. This familiarity it is thought will be a great benefit and help, while the number of the hymns is sufficient to give what variety is needful and helpful.

9. Then the Congregation stands and joins in the Response-Reading, pp. 41-75, and in connection therewith the Response-Readings-Music, pp. 77-78. Each Reading is divided into two parts by a long line; at this division is sung the GLORIA, p. 77. At the end of the Reading follows Song, one of the three pieces on pp. 77-78, according to the number of the Response-Reading, as is stated over the music. Thus by the number of the Response-Reading the people know at once what music is to follow. After the music the people sit again.

10. Prayer.

11. The Sanctus, sung, pp. 79-84, unannounced, the organ *playing it through* first, by which the Congregation recognizes and knows it. Here again the different forms or pieces of the Sanctus are so few that we have the helpfulness of familiarity with them, and yet so many as to afford the correlative helpfulness of variety.

12. Prayer read by the Congregation in unison, pp. 85-92. The prayer is read which bears the number of the Response-Reading previously read. Therefore no announcement of page or number is needful.

13. The Amen, pp. 93-94.

14. The people rise. The Benediction, p. 94; to which the Minister adds his own words of Benediction.

We have thought it best not to have the organ play after the service—sometimes called "Playing the people out." We find it pleasant to stay. Quiet and kind conversation is good for the fellowship and friendship which belong to the church. Therefore after the Minister's words in the Benediction, the Organ plays a short response while the people stand quiet; then follows silence; and then the quiet talking in the aisles and open places.

With kind greeting and fellowship,

THE THIRD CHURCH PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

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THE ASSEMBLING

THE ASSEMBLING.

Friends and Brethren, all Scriptures and our own hearts move us to be in peace one with another, and to come unto the House of Prayer.

The Spirit himself beareth witness with our spirit that we are children of God; and if children, then heirs, heirs of God, and brethren in him; that we be partakers of his Spirit, even our Father, that hath loved us, and given us everlasting hope and consolation, to comfort our hearts and stablish them in every good word and work; and that we give one to another all good love and service, in honor preferring one another.

God that maketh the world and all things therein, Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands, neither is served by men's hands, as though he needed anything, seeing he himself giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; and he hath made of one every nation of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, that they should seek God, if haply they might feel after him and find him, though he be not far from any one of us; for in him we live and move and have our being.

Let us search and try our ways, and turn unto the Lord. Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, nor the mighty man in his might; let not the rich man glory in his riches; but let him that glorieth glory in this, that he beholdeth and knoweth the Lord, who is Judgment, Righteousness and Mercy in the earth. It is good to sing joy and praise unto him, to show forth his loving-kindness in the morning, and his faithfulness every night.

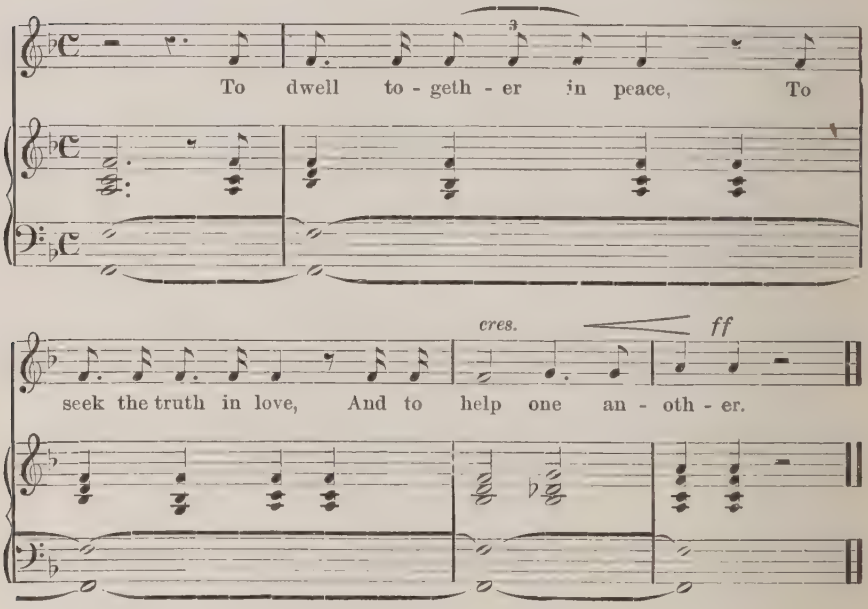
Wherefore let us come together and accompany one another in this endeared and holy place, to exalt praise with one voice, and with one heart turn unto God, and one unto another who are brethren in him.

It is our glad and holy day:

We will take sweet counsel together.

Peace to young and old that enter here:

Peace to every soul herein.

Love is the spirit of this church, and Service is its law: This is our GREAT COVENANT:

Search earnestly, one with another, with what spirit we come hither:

And each to his own heart say, With what spirit come we hither?

Creatures beholding Creation, children before our Father, the Infinite Life and Eternal Holiness, let us answer with humble, devout soul: and say—

We come to pray together:

Minister's response.

That our prayer be joy and gratefulness:

Minister's response.

That our prayer be praise and worship:

Minister's response.

That our prayer be love and peace unto each other and to all the creatures of our Father:

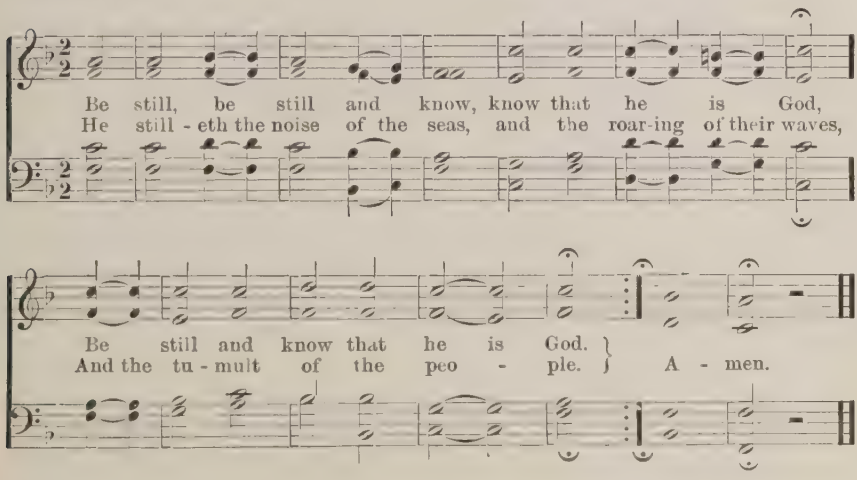
Minister's response.

That our prayer be the help of God unto us in temptation, and strength unto us for faithfulness, to cease to do evil, to learn to do well:

Minister's response.

That our prayer bring us to the Lover of souls, the Healer of sorrows, the Strength of the needy in his distress, the Refuge of the oppressed, the Father of the fatherless, the Comforter, the Giver of joys, our Dwelling-place in all generations:

Minister's response.


Be still, be still and know, know that he is God,
He still - eth the noise of the seas, and the roar-ing of their waves,
Be still and know that he is God.
And the tu - mult of the peo - ple.
A - men.

I

The Eternal God is our refuge; underneath us are the everlasting arms.

II

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; serve him with gladness all the earth.

III

Praise ye the Lord, and behold with thine eyes all his mercies: Out of the heavens his love raineth like unto rivers.

IV

We know all things work together for good to them that love God.

V

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee.

VI

With him is the fountain of life: through his light we see light.

VII

His hand doth lead us, and his right hand doth hold us.

VIII

We shall know the truth and the truth will make us free.

IX

O Lord, how manifold are thy works: in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

X

Like as a father pitieth his children, the Lord pitieth them that fear him.

XI

The Lord shall keep thy going out and thy incoming, from this time forth and even for evermore.

XII

The world with righteousness he judgeth, and all the people with his truth.

XIII

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.

XIV

The Lord is nigh to all, to all that call on him in truth.

XV

O that men would praise the Lord for his goodness and for his wonderful works to the children of men.

XVI

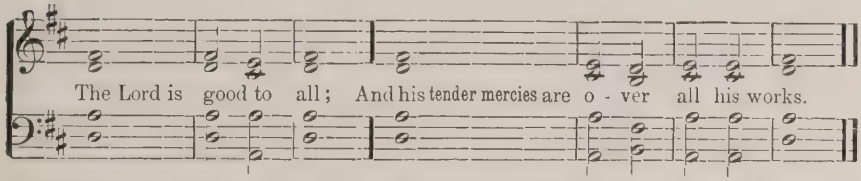
Come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise to him with psalms.

CHORAL RESPONSES.

I.

NIGH UNTO ALL.

O, come let us sing unto the Lord. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving, and be joyful of heart before him. He is nigh unto all that call upon him in truth.



Thus saith the High and Holy One, who inhabiteth Eternity, whose name is holy: I dwell in the high and holy place; with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the hearts of the contrite ones.

The Lord is | good to | all;
And his tender mercies are | over | all his | works.

Can a woman forget her child? Yea, they may forget; yet will I not forget thee, saith our God.

The Eternal God | is our | refuge:
Underneath us are the | ever- | lasting | arms.

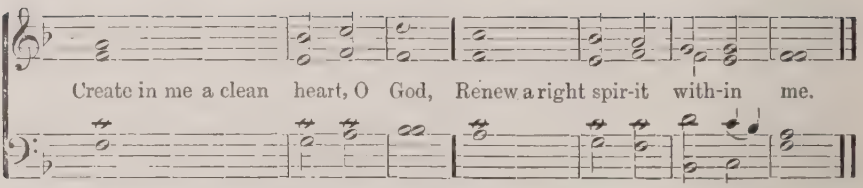
Neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God. Trust in him at all times, ye people: pour out your hearts before him.

Trust ye in the | Lord for | ever:
For in the Lord, the Eternal, is | ever- | lasting | strength.

II.

THE OFFERING.

Wherewith shall we come before the Lord, and bow ourselves before the Most High? He hath shown us in our hearts what is good, and what it is he doth require: to do justly; to love mercy; and to walk humbly with our God.



If thou bring thy prayer to the altar and there remember that thy brother hath aught against thee, go thy way! First be reconciled to thy brother,—then come and offer thy prayer unto God. He that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

Search me, O God, and | know my | heart;
Try | me and | know my | thoughts.

And when ye stand praying, forgive if ye have aught against any; that your Father, also, who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

Search me, O God, and | know my | heart,
Try | me and | know my | thoughts.

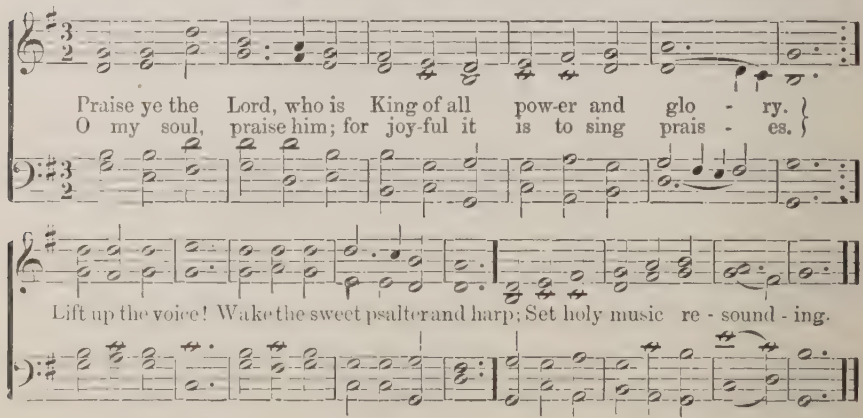
Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good repute, whatever virtue there is, and whatever praise,—let us think on these things.

O, worship the Lord in the | beauty...of | holiness:
Serve him with | gladness, | all the | earth.

III.

TENDER MERCIES.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.


Praise ye the Lord, who is King of all pow-er and glo - ry.
O my soul, praise him; for joy-ful it is to sing prais - es.
Lift up the voice! Wake the sweet psalter and harp; Set holy music re - sound - ing.

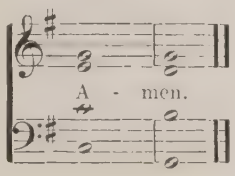
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thy sins, who healeth all thy diseases, who redeemeth thy life from destruction, who crowneth thee with loving-kindness and tender mercies. He healeth the broken in heart and bindeth up their wounds: he telleth the number of the stars, he calleth them all by their names.

Praise ye the Lord, who with majesty ruleth in all things;
Who thee preserves and upbears as on pinions of eagles;
Who thee upholds when by thyself thou wouldst fall.
Verily, hast thou not known it?

O Lord, thy blessings hang in clusters! They come trooping upon us! They break forth like mighty waters on every side! O, make thy goodness, health and strength unto us, that we may be thankful, dutiful and holy.

Praise ye the Lord, and behold with thine eyes all his mercies:
Out of the heavens his love raineth like unto rivers.
Think, O thou man, what is the might of his hand.
Who daily meets thee with blessings.

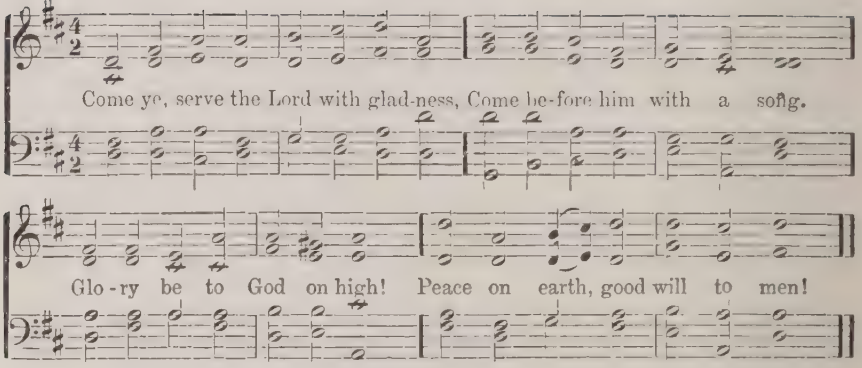
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his Holy name.



IV.

IN THE FATHER'S HOUSE.

I was glad when my companions said unto me, Come, it is our holy day, let us go into the house of the Lord; let us take sweet counsel together; let our feet stand within his gates, and heart and voice give thanks unto him. Peace to young and old that enter here, peace to every soul herein! The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon us and give us peace.



Blessed be God that giveth beauty for ashes, and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. The Lord is my light and my salvation: whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life: of whom shall I be afraid? It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord.

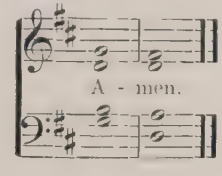
Make not haste in time of trouble:
Patiently wait for the Lord.
We know all things work for good
Unto them that love the Lord.

Blessed be the Lord, God of Ages, who never ceaseth to draw more nigh. His voice in the morning of the world was heard from afar: in the evening he speaketh at the door, and entereth to abide with us forever. Manifold are thy witnesses, O God, and the angels of thine invisible presence: else had we never known thee. Lo! thou goest by us, and we see thee not: but the firmament declareth thy glory; the prophets proclaim thy judgments; the righteous wonder at thy law in their hearts; the patient find thee in the secret places of their sorrow, and their songs break out in melody to thee.

Holy, holy Lord Almighty,
Earth declares thy majesty,
And thy glory fills the heavens:
Holy, holy, holy Lord!

Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his presence with singing. For he is our God; we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

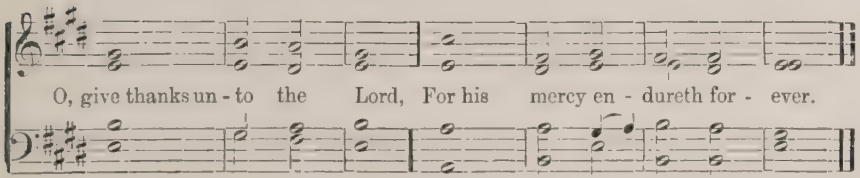
Come ye, serve the Lord with gladness,
Come before him with a song:
Glory be to God on high!
Peace on earth, good will to men!



V.

THE REFUGE.

Blessed be God, the God who helpeth us; who beareth our burdens day by day. The Lord meeteth him that with rejoicing worketh righteousness, that remembereth him in his way. In all our ways let us acknowledge him, and he shall direct our paths.



Why art thou cast down, O my soul, and why art thou disquieted within me. Hope thou in God! I shall yet praise him,—him my Deliverer, and my God!

His righteousness is like the | high... | mountains.
His | justice | is a... great | deep.

When I am in heaviness, I will think upon God: a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat.

Thou wilt keep him in | perfect | peace,
Whose | mind is | stayed on | thee.

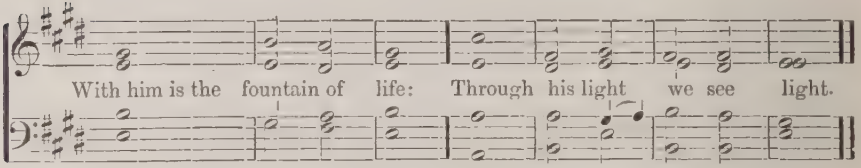
The Eternal is an Everlasting God. He fainteth not neither is weary: and to them that have no might, he giveth abundant strength. They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

O give thanks un | to the | Lord,
For his | mercy...en- | dureth...for- | ever.

VI.

THE STRENGTH OF THE HEAVENS AND THE HEART.

There is one God and Father of all, above all, and through all, and in us all: in him we live and move and have our being: of him and through him and to him are all things.



The heavens declare his glory; the firmament showeth his handiwork: day unto day uttereth wisdom, night unto night showeth knowledge.

O Lord how manifold | are thy | works:
In wisdom | hast thou | made them | all.

Blessed is the man whose delight is in the law of the Lord. Blessed are they whose ways are pure, who walk in the path of his commandments. Blessed are they who keep his statutes and who seek him with the whole heart.

Blessed is the man whose | strength is...in | thee:
In | whose heart | are thy | ways.

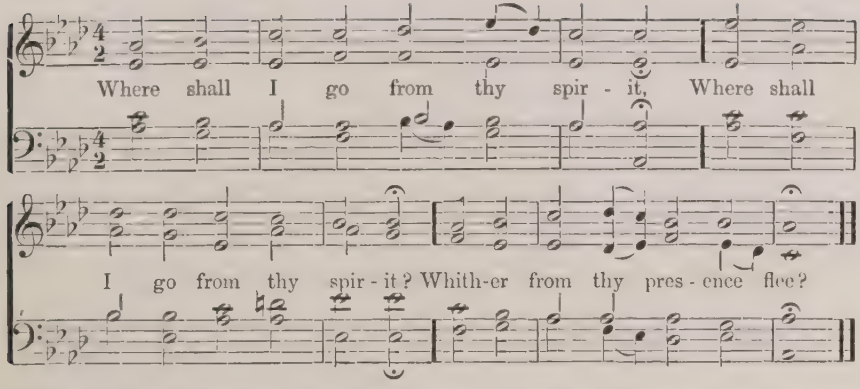
Glory be to the Father who | is in | heaven:
The | High and | Holy One!
As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever | shall be;
Worlds | without | end. A- | men.

VII.

THE SEARCHER OF HEARTS.

(Psalm 139)

O Lord, thou hast searched me and known me! Thou knowest my sitting-down and my rising-up: thou understandest my thoughts from afar: thou seest my path and my lying-down, and art acquainted with all my ways. Before the word is upon my tongue, behold, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether! thou besettest me behind and before, and layest thine hand upon me! Such knowledge is too wonderful for me: it is high, I cannot attain to it.



If I ascend into the heavens, thou art there. If I make my bed in the depths, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there shall thy hand lead me—

Even there shall thy hand lead me,
And thy right hand shall hold me.

If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me,—even the night shall be light about me!

Yea, the darkness hides not from thee,
But the night shineth like day.

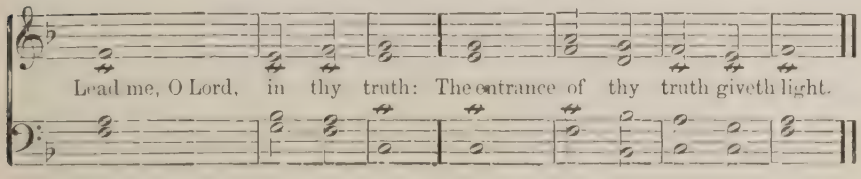
How precious to me are thy thoughts, O God! How great is the sum of them! If I count them, they outnumber the sands. When I awake I am still with thee! Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:

See if there be evil in me;
Lead me in thine holy way.

VIII.

THE SONS OF GOD.

Ask and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you: for the spirit of truth will guide us into all truth, and we shall know the truth, and the truth will make us free.



God, who commandeth the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts also, and given us the earnest of the spirit within us whereby we lay hold of eternal life. This is the light which lighteth every man who cometh into the world: and as many as receive it, to them it giveth power to become the Sons of God.

Lead us, O Lord | in thy | truth:
Let thy truth pre- | serve us | ever- | more.

Jesus said: For this cause came I into the world, and to this end was I born, —that I should bear witness to the truth, and work the works of him that sent me. And if any one desire to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross; for I came not to do mine own will, but the will of the Father that sent me: and whosoever will do the will of God, the same is my brother and my sister.

They shall | know the | truth:
And the | truth shall | make them | free.

For the Spirit teacheth all things, even the deep things of God.

Even the deep | things of | God.
And his | truth shall | make us | free.

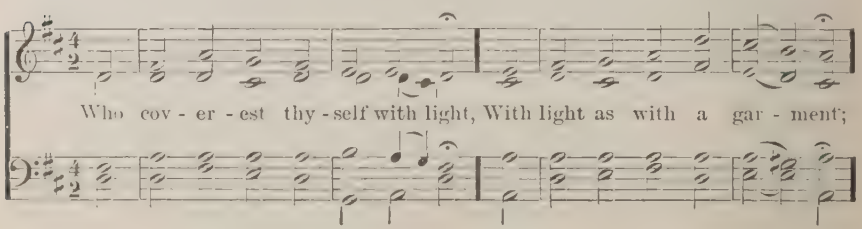
Glory be to the Father who | is in | heaven:
The | High and | Holy One!
As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever | shall be;
Worlds | without | end. A- | men.

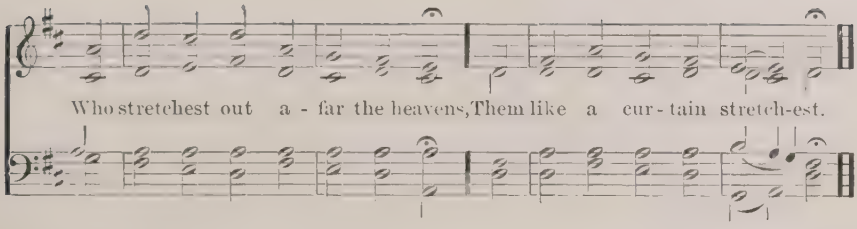
IX.

SING UNTO THE LORD.

(Psalms 103, 104.)

Bless the Lord, O my soul! and all that is within me bless his holy name! All thy works do bless thee, O Lord, in all places of thy dominion.





He sendeth forth springs into the valleys; they run among the mountains; they give drink to every beast of the field; by them the fowl of the heavens have their habitation, they sing among the branches.

The grass to grow up he doth cause,
To grow up for the cattle;
And every herb to nourish man
Who from the earth food bringeth.

He appointeth the moon for seasons: the sun knoweth his going down. Thou makest darkness and it is night, wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep forth. The sun ariseth, they get them away, and lay them down in their dens. Man goeth forth unto his work, and to his labor until the evening.

O Lord, how manifold thy works,
In wisdom hast thou made them;
In wisdom hast thou made them all,
The earth is full of riches.

All thy creatures innumerable wait upon thee, that thou mayest give them their meat in due season. That thou givest unto them they gather. Thou openest thine hand, they are satisfied with good. Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created; and thou renewest the face of the earth.

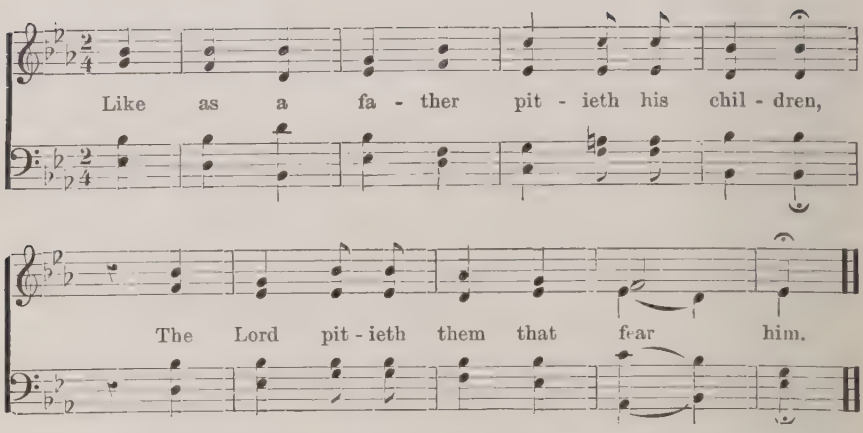
Now will I sing unto the Lord,
And while I live sing ever:
Praise will I sing unto my God
As long as I have being.

X.

LIKE AS A FATHER.

(Psalm 103.)

Bless the Lord, O my soul! and all that is within me bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits; who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies.



As for man, his days are as grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it and it is gone, and the place thereof shall know it no more. But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

To all them that do keep his commandments,
That keep his commands to do them.

His kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the Lord, all ye his hosts:

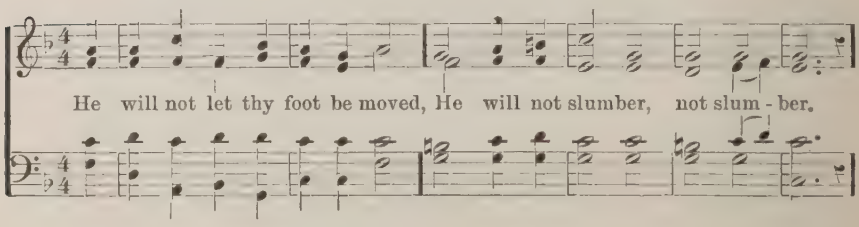
Bless ye the Lord, his works in all places,
All places of his dominion.

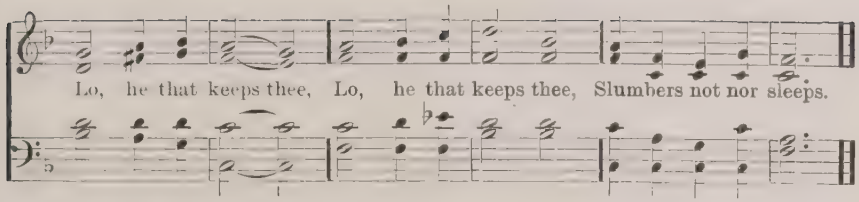
XI.

THE LORD OUR KEEPER.

(Psalm 121.)

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills. From whence cometh my help? My help cometh from the Lord who made heaven and earth.





The Lord is thy keeper; the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall keep thee from all evil. He shall keep thy soul.

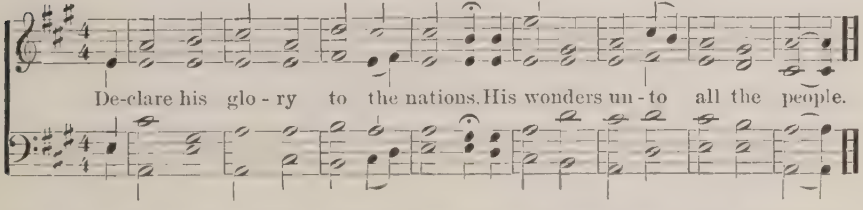
The Lord shall keep thy going out
And thy incoming, incoming;
From this time forth,
From this time forth, and
Even for evermore.

XII.

THE LORD REIGNETH.

(Psalm 96.)

O sing unto the Lord a new song; sing unto the Lord all the earth; sing unto the Lord, bless his name: show forth his salvation from day to day.



Glory and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

O worship him in holy beauty,
With reverence worship, all the earth.

Say among the nations, The Lord reigneth: the world also is stablished that it cannot be moved; he shall judge the people righteously.

Ye heavens be glad, and earth be joyful,
The sea and all its fulness roar.

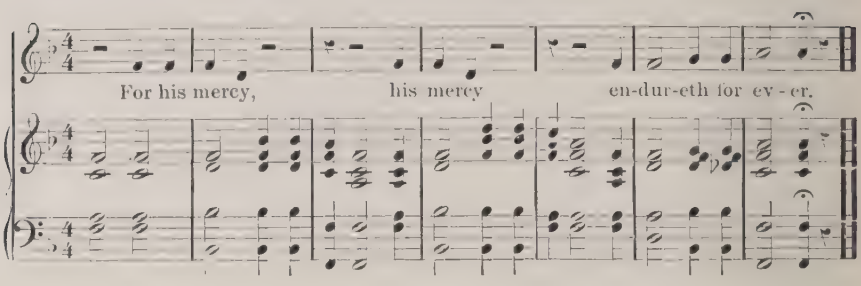
Let the field exult and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood sing for joy before the Lord; for he cometh, he cometh to judge the earth.

The world with righteousness he judgeth,
And all the people with his truth.

XIII.

HIS MERCY ENDURETH FOREVER.

(Psalm 136.)

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good:

To him who alone doeth great wonders:

For his mercy endureth forever.

To him that by wisdom made the heavens:

For his mercy endureth forever.

To him that spread forth the earth above the waters:

For his mercy endureth forever.

To him that made great lights, the sun to rule by day, the moon and stars to rule by night:

For his mercy endureth forever.

He giveth food unto all creatures:

For his mercy endureth forever.

O give thanks unto God in the heavens:

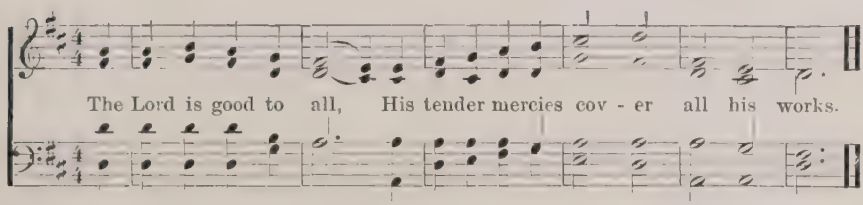
For his mercy endureth forever.

XIV.

HIS TENDER MERCIES.

(Psalm 145.)

We will praise thee, O God, and bless thy name for ever and ever. Every day will we bless thee, and praise thy name, for ever and ever. We will utter the memory of thy great goodness and sing of thy righteousness:



All thy works shall give thee thanks, O Lord, and thy saints shall bless thee. They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom and talk of thy power. Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations:

He holdeth all that fall;
All them bowed down he raiseth, raiseth up.

The eyes of all wait upon thee, and thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest thine hand and satisfiest the desire of every living thing:

The Lord is nigh to all;
To all that call on him, that call in truth.

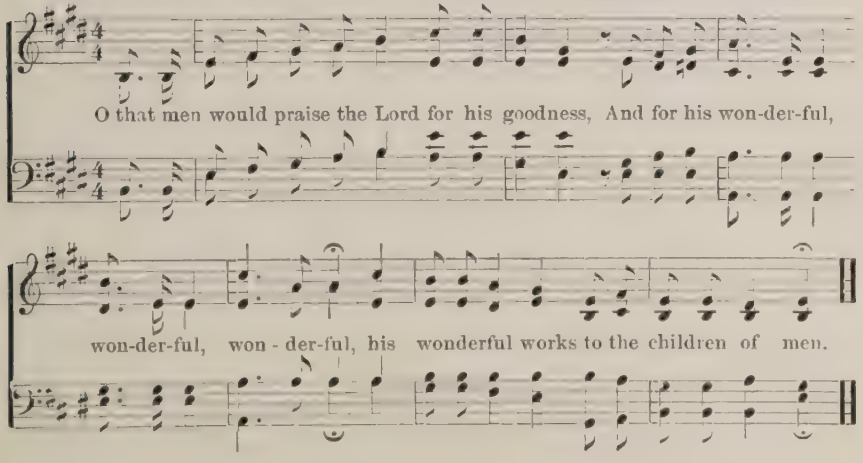
Our mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord. Let all men bless his holy name for ever and ever.

XV.

GIVE THANKS, FOR HE IS GOOD.

(Psalm 107.)

O give thanks unto the Lord for he is good: his mercy endureth forever:


O that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, And for his won-der-ful,
won-der-ful, won - der-ful, his wonderful works to the children of men.

He satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with good. Let us offer the sacrifices of thanksgiving and declare his works with singing:

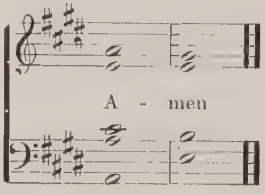
O that men would praise the Lord, *etc.*

They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters, these see the works of the Lord and his wonders in the deep. For he commandeth and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof. They mount up to the heavens, they go down again to the depths; their soul melteth away because of trouble. Then he maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they be quiet. So he bringeth them unto the haven where they would be:

O that men would praise the Lord, *etc.*

He turneth a wilderness into a pool of water, and a dry land into water springs. And there he maketh the hungry to dwell, that they may prepare a city of habitation; and sew fields and plant vineyards, and get them fruits of increase. The upright shall see it and be glad, and all iniquity shall stop his mouth. Whoso is wise shall give heed to these things, and they shall consider the mercies of the Lord:

O that men would praise the Lord, *etc.*

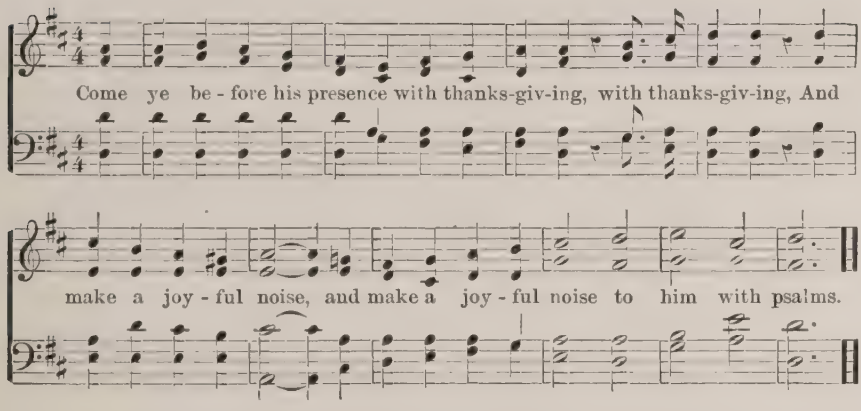


XVI

COME WITH THANKSGIVING.

(Psalm 95.)

O come let us sing unto the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation :

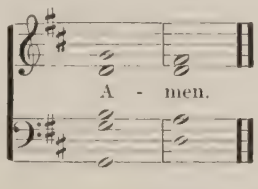

Come ye be - fore his presence with thanks-giv-ing, with thanks-giv-ing, And
make a joy - ful noise, and make a joy - ful noise to him with psalms.

In his hand are the deep places of the earth, the strength of the hills is his also:

The mighty sea is his and he hath made it ;
It is his hand that formeth the dry land.

He is God ; and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Come ye before his presence with thanksgiving,
And make a joyful noise to him with psalms.



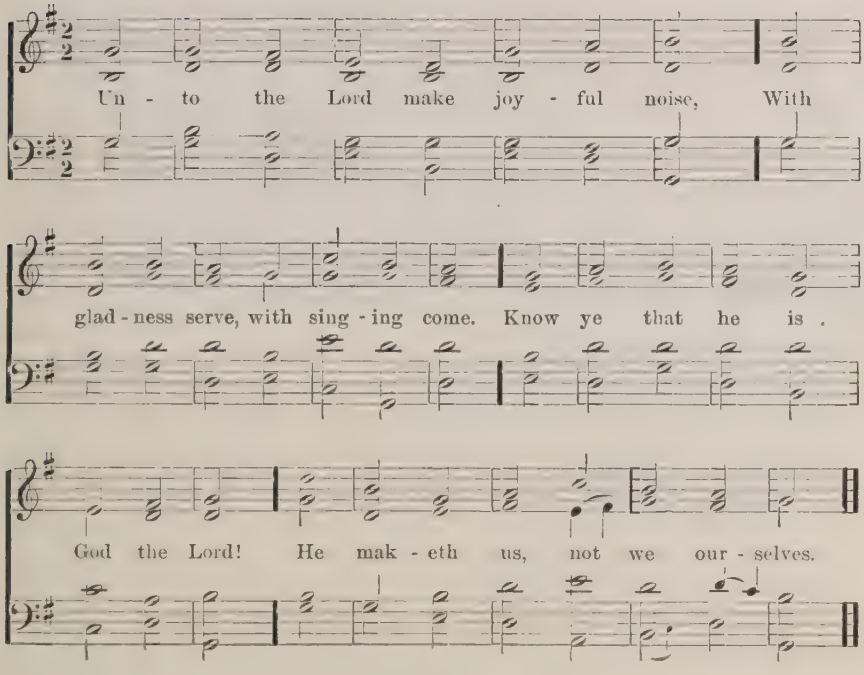
THE PARTING

CHORAL HYMNS.

I

THE OLD HUNDRED.

Psalm 100.

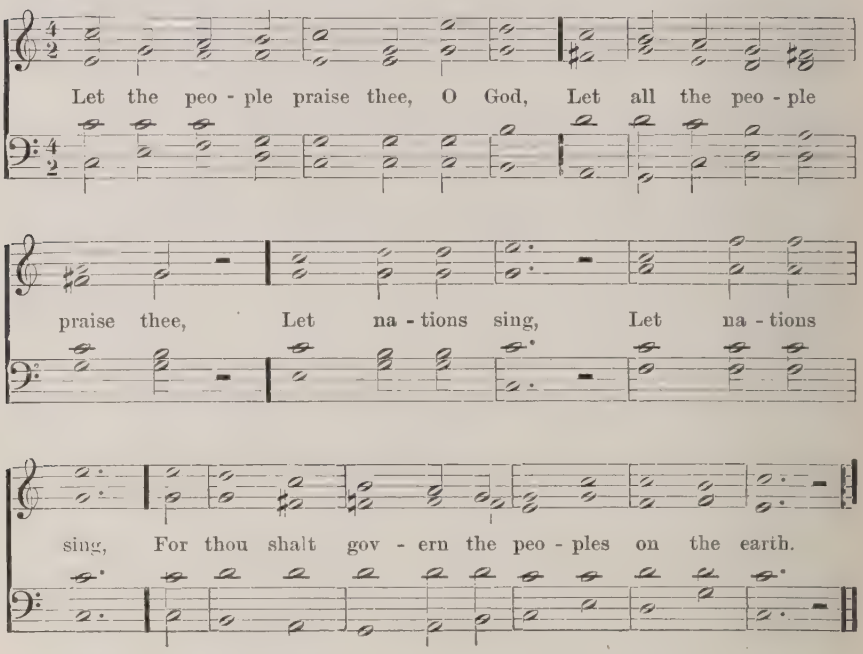

Un - to the Lord make joy - ful noise, With
glad - ness serve, with sing - ing come. Know ye that he is .
God the Lord! He mak - eth us, not we our - selves.

We are his people and his flock: With thanks and praise come in his gates: The Lord is good, his mercy lasts: His truth endures all ages through.

11

O, LET THE NATIONS BE GLAD AND SING FOR JOY.

Psalm 67.

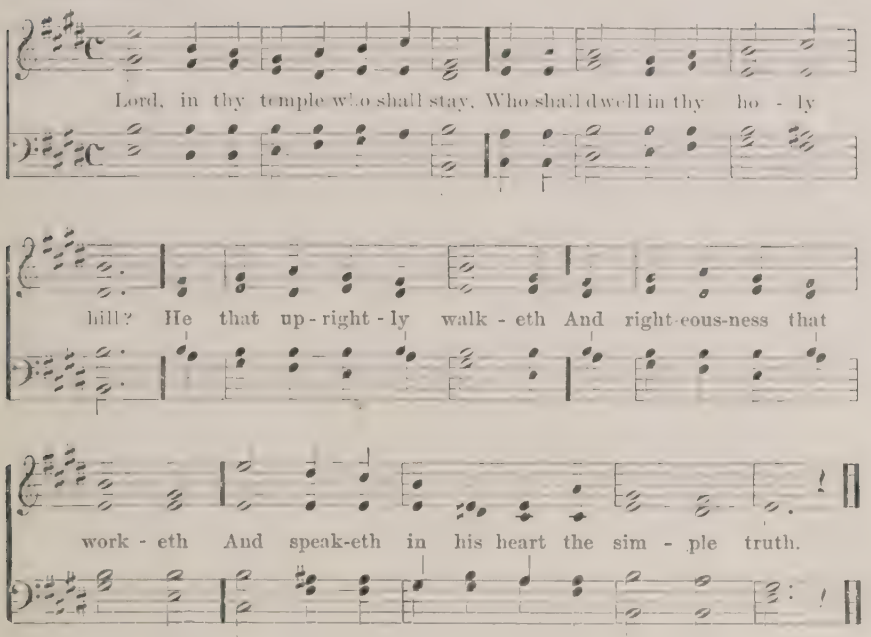

Let the peo - ple praise thee, O God, Let all the peo - ple
praise thee, Let na - tions sing, Let na - tions
sing, For thou shalt gov - ern the peo - ples on the earth.

Let the people praise thee, O God : Let all the people praise thee : He blesseth us: And all the ends of the earth shall stand in awe.

III

CLEAN HANDS AND A PURE HEART.

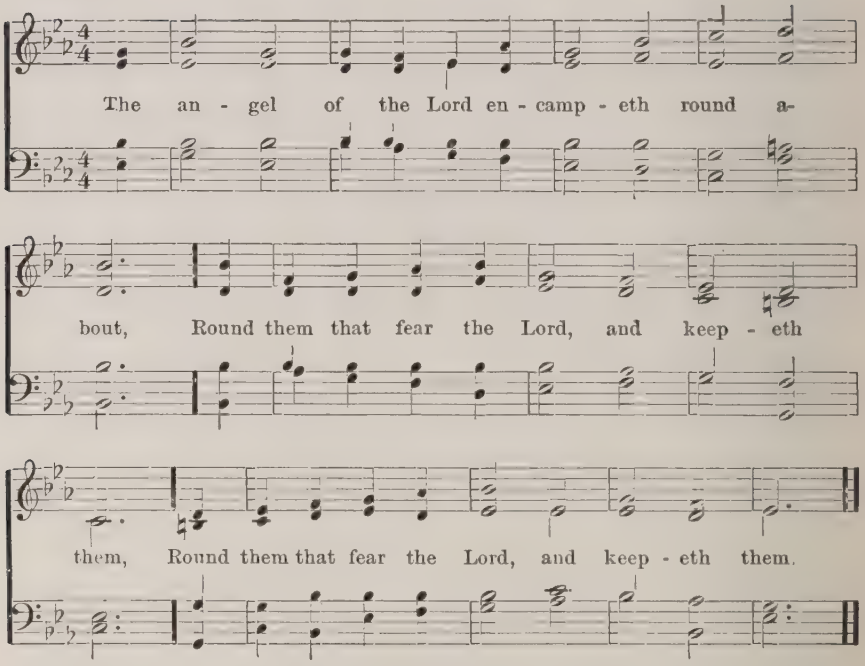
Psalms 15 & 24.


Lord, in thy temple who shall stay, Who shall dwell in thy ho - ly
hill? He that up-right-ly walk - eth And right-eous-ness that
work - eth And speak-eth in his heart the sim - ple truth.

Lord, in thy hill who shall ascend: Who shall stand in thy holy place: He that clean hands upholdeth: And he whose heart is simple: Who unto empty things gives not his soul.

IV

THEY LOOK UNTO HIM AND ARE LIGHTENED.

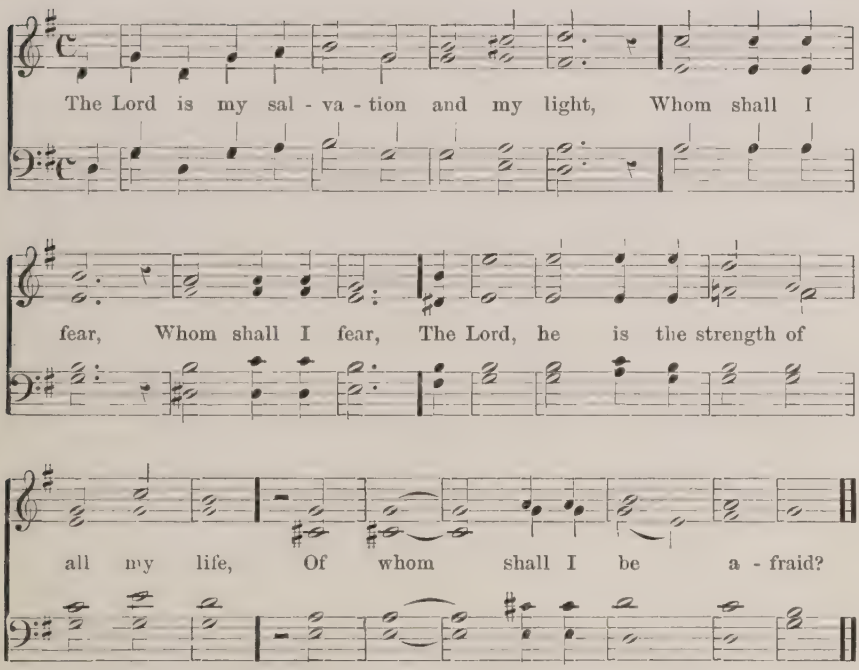
Psalm 34.

The an - gel of the Lord en - camp - eth round a-
bout, Round them that fear the Lord, and keep - eth
them, Round them that fear the Lord, and keep - eth them.

O try, and know ye surely that the Lord is good: Blest is the man that trusteth still in him.

V

HE WILL SET ME UP UPON A ROCK.

Psalm 27.

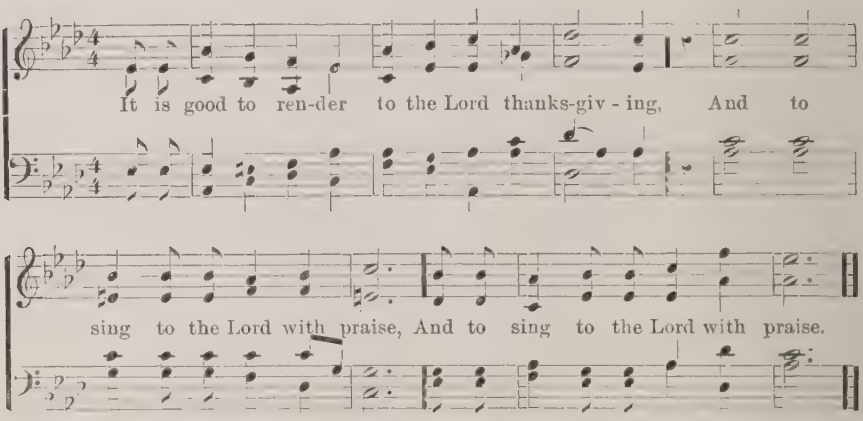

The Lord is my sal - va - tion and my light, Whom shall I
fear, Whom shall I fear, The Lord, he is the strength of
all my life, Of whom shall I be a - fraid?

Although a host against me should encamp: I shall not fear: Though war should rise against me in its might: In God shall I be at peace.

VI

THOU, LORD, HAST MADE ME GLAD THROUGH THY WORK.

Psalm 92.

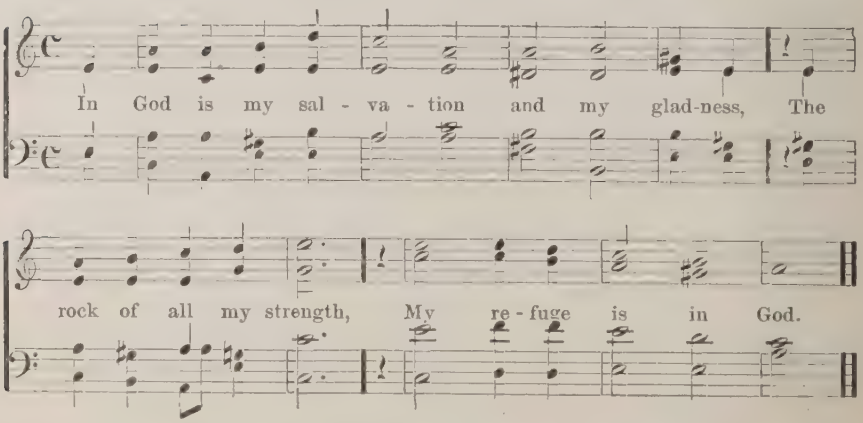


To declare his loving-kindness in the morning: And his faithfulness every night.

VII

MY SOUL, WAIT THOU IN SILENCE FOR GOD ONLY.

Psalm 62.

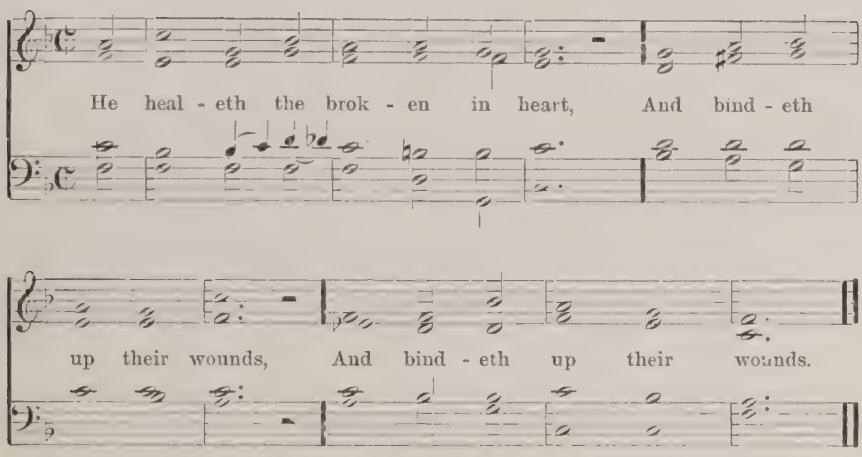


O trust in him for evermore ye people: Before him pour your heart: Our refuge is in God.

VIII

SING UNTO THE LORD WITH THANKSGIVING.

Psalm 147.

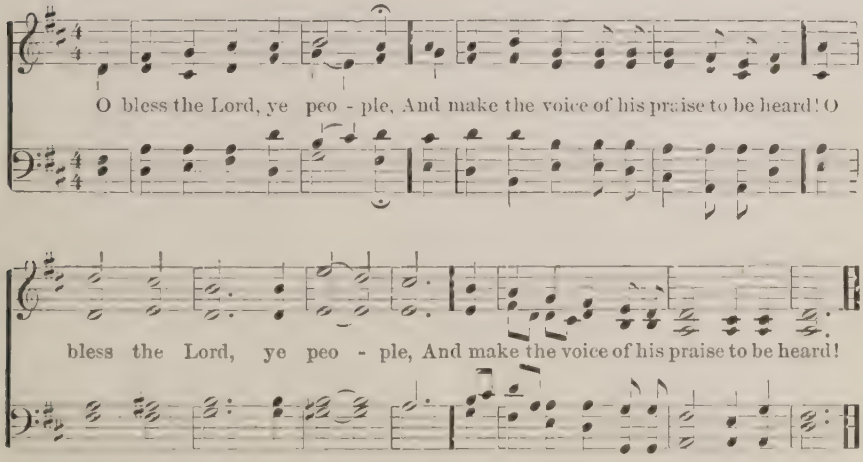


He telleth the number of stars: And calls them by their names.

IX

VERILY GOD HATH HEARD AND HATH ATTENDED TO THE VOICE OF MY PRAYER.

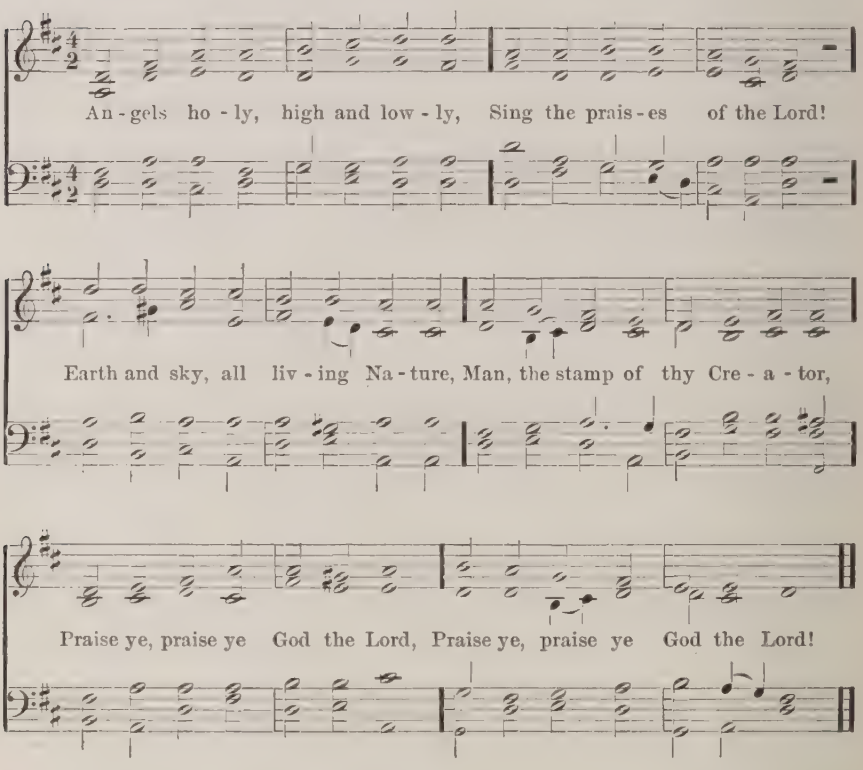
Psalm 66.


O bless the Lord, ye peo - ple, And make the voice of his praise to be heard! O
bless the Lord, ye peo - ple, And make the voice of his praise to be heard!

Our soul in life he holdeth: And suff'reth never our feet to be moved.

X

PRAISE THE LORD ALL YE HIS WORKS, IN ALL PLACES OF HIS DOMINION.


An - gels ho - ly, high and low - ly, Sing the prais - es of the Lord!
Earth and sky, all liv - ing Na - ture, Man, the stamp of thy Cre - a - tor,
Praise ye, praise ye God the Lord, Praise ye, praise ye God the Lord!

Sun and moon bright, night and noon-light,
Starry temples azure-floored,
Cloud and rain, and wild winds' madness,
Sons of God that shout for gladness,
Praise ye, praise ye God the Lord!

Ocean hoary, tell his glory;
Cliffs where tumbling seas have roared!
Pulse of waters, blithely beating,
Wave advancing, wave retreating,
Praise ye, praise ye God the Lord!

Rock and highland, wood and island,
Crag where eagle's pride hath soared,
Mighty mountains purple-breasted,
Peaks cloud-cleaving, snowy crested,
Praise ye, praise ye God the Lord!

Rolling river, praise him ever,
From the mountain's deep vein poured;
Silver fountain, clearly gushing,
Troubled torrent, madly rushing,
Praise ye, praise ye God the Lord!

Bond and free man, land and sea man,
Earth with peoples widely stored,
Wanderer lone o'er prairies ample,
Full-voiced choir in costly temple,
Praise ye, praise ye God the Lord!

Praise him ever, Bounteous Giver!
Praise him, Father, Friend and Lord!
Each glad soul its free course winging,
Each glad voice its free song singing,
Praise ye, praise ye God the Lord!

RESPONSE-READINGS.

I.

THE NINETEENTH PSALM.

The Heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth his handiwork:

Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge.

There is no speech nor language; their voice cannot be heard:

Yet their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race:

His going forth is from the end of the heavens and his circuit unto the ends of it, and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

The Law of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul:

The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple:

The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart:

The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes:

The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether:

More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb:

Moreover by them is thy servant warned:

In keeping of them there is great reward.

Who can discern his errors? Cleanse thou me from hidden faults: keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins. Let them not have dominion over me. Then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from great transgression:

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer.

II.

BLESSINGS AND GOOD GIFTS.

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow that is cast by turning.

The mercy of the Lord is upon all men; he reproveth and nurtureth, and teacheth, and bringeth again, as a shepherd his flock:

He hath mercy on them that receive discipline and that diligently seek after his judgments:

The eyes of the Lord are upon those that love him; he is their mighty protection and strong stay, a defence from the heat, and a cover from the sun at noon, a preservation from stumbling and a help from falling:

He raiseth up the soul and lighteneth the eyes; he giveth health, life and blessing.—*Ap.*

Thou turnest a wilderness into a pool of water and a dry land into water springs; and there thou makest the hungry to dwell, that they may prepare a city of habitation, and sow fields and plant vineyards, and get them fruits of increase:

Thou crownest the year with thy goodness, and thy footsteps drop fruitfulness:

They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness, and the hills are girded with joy:

The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing:

He satisfieth also the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness. I will bless the Lord who hath given me counsel:

Who giveth songs in the night: who teacheth us to know more than the beasts of the earth, and maketh us wiser than the fowls of heaven:

A Father of the fatherless and a judge of the widows is God in his holy habitation:

He setteth the solitary in families; he bringeth out those who are bound with chains:

O sing unto the Lord a new song; sing unto him all the earth:

Sing unto the Lord, bless his name; show forth his salvation from day to day.

III.

PRAISE AND TRUST.

He that giveth his mind to the law of the Most High will keep the sayings of holy men. He will give his heart to resort early to the Lord that made him, and will pray to the Most High:

In the Lord's time he shall be filled with the spirit of understanding; he shall pour out wise teachings and give thanks to the Lord in his prayer:

Sing a song of praise, bless the Lord in all his works; and in praising him, ye shall speak after this manner, and say:

All the works of the Lord are exceeding good, and whatsoever he commandeth shall be done in due season; and none may say, What is this? Wherefore is that? for in good time they shall all be sought out.—*Ap.*

The works of all men are before him, and nothing can be hid from his eyes. He seeth from everlasting to everlasting:

His blessing covereth the dry land as a river, and watereth it as a flood. His ways become plain unto the holy, though they be stumbling blocks unto the wicked:

All the works of the Lord are good and he will give every needful thing in due season; so that a man can not say, This is worse than that; for in time they shall all be well approved:

Therefore praise ye the Lord with the whole heart and mouth, and bless the name of the Lord.—*Ap.*

IV.

TRUSTFUL SINGLENESS OF HEART.

Whatsoever thou art not able to understand, that commit without anxiety to God. God deceiveth thee not. But he is deceived who believeth too much in himself:

God walks with the simple, is revealed to him who hath humility of heart, giveth understanding to the childlike, opens visions to pure minds:

Hath one received many things and another few?

et all things are of God, and without him not even the least thing can be possessed:

Hath one received many things, let him not boast himself of it, nor be proud above others:

For he is the greater and the better who ascribeth least to himself, and in thanksgiving is humble and devout.—*I.*

Hath one received few things, whatever is commanded thee, think thereon with reverence; for it is not needful for thee to see all things which are in secret.—*Ap.*

The peace of a lowly mind be with us, a sweet joy in what God hath made.—*M.*

Blessed is he who seeketh truth and love above all! Jesus said, Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly of heart:

And ye shall find rest unto your souls.

Ask and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find: knock and it shall be opened unto you:

For every one that asketh receiveth, and he that seeketh findeth, and to him that knocketh the door is opened.

For the Spirit of Truth will guide us into all truth:

And we shall know the truth, and the truth will make us free.

V.

THE LIFE OF THE SPIRIT.

A good life refresheth the mind, and a pure conscience giveth great confidence toward God:

At eventide thou always shalt have joy if thou have spent the day well. Watch over thyself, stir thyself up, admonish thyself, neglect not thy spirit:

A good conscience is able to bear exceeding much, and is exceeding joyful in the midst of troubles:

But an evil conscience is unquiet and afraid. Thou shalt rest sweetly if thy heart condemn thee not:

The more a man hath unity and simplicity in himself, the more and the deeper things he understandeth—

Living the life of the spirit.—*I.*

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven:

Blessed are the meek,

For they shall inherit the earth:

Blessed are they that mourn,

For they shall be comforted:

Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness,

For they shall be filled:

Blessed are the merciful,

For they shall obtain mercy:

Blessed are the pure in heart,

For they shall see God:

Blessed are the peacemakers,

For they shall be called the children of God.

VI.

TO ENDURE AND TO LABOR.

The Eternal Voice speaketh in our souls, saying, To endure and to labor is holy:—*M.*

Saying, Wait for the Lord; be not faint-hearted, nor go aside from God. Quit ye like men; be strong.—*I.*

It is not laid on us to complete the work:

But we must not therefore cease from it.—*R.*

What is difficulty, what is a hard thing, pain, sorrow?—

That wherewith God hath matched us that we may prevail.—*E.*

Who is he that hath the deepest joy?—

Even he who is strong to suffer somewhat for God.—*I.*

Oh, what might hath man to do naught but what God will approve:

What power to accept all that God bringeth!—*A.*

To have quiet and joy, is good; if sorrow come, to meet it with patience, is good:

Better than these, if in the sorrow we have rest.—*T.*

This charge he committeth unto you, that ye war a good warfare, yet with your feet shod with the gospel of peace, and having the shield of faith, and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God in the heart.

Jesus said, For this cause came I into the world, and to this end was I born, that I should bear witness to the truth, and work the works of him that sent me. And if any one desire to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross; for I came not to do mine own will, but the will of the Father who sent me.

Let us not be weary in well-doing. Doing the will of God from the heart, in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

VII.

THE PEACE OF GOD.

Everywhere and at all times, it is in thy power to be submissive in thy present state, and to behave justly,

And to give heed to thy present thoughts, that nothing evil shall steal into them:

Constantly retreat into thine own soul, and renew thyself, and let thy principles be brief and underlying:

Which, as soon as thou shalt refer to them, will cleanse the soul perfectly and send thee back glad and willing to thy labor.—*A.*

Where art thou when thou art not present to thyself, but hast run after all things?—

Blessed are the single-hearted, for they shall have abundant peace:

Give thanks to the Supreme Goodness, who dealeth with thee so graciously, visiteth thee so lovingly, stirreth thee up so fervently, rouseth thee so powerfully, lest thou sink down with thine own weight and earthly things:

If thine heart be right, then shall every creature be a mirror of life and a book of holy doctrine:

The pure heart seeth the depths of heaven and hell:

Simpleness of heart reacheth toward God, purity apprehendeth him.—*I*

The Commandment of God is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off.

It is not in heaven that thou shouldst say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it and do it?

Neither is it beyond the sea, that one should say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it and do it?

But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayst do it:

To do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God.

The work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever:

When God giveth quietness, who then can make trouble?

Thou will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee:

Even the peace of God which passeth all understanding.

VIII.

SIMPLICITY AND SINCERITY.

It is written that the disciples came to Jesus, saying, Who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And he called to him a little child, and set him in the midst of them, and said, Verily I say unto you, except ye turn and become as little children, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever, therefore, shall humble himself as this little child, the same is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven:

Again it is written that they brought unto him their babes that he might lay his hands on them; but when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them; but Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer the little children to come unto me; forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God. And he took them in his arms and blessed them.

He said unto them, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the great and first commandment; and a second like unto it, is this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thy self. On these two commandments hang the whole law and the prophets;

It is written that he beheld the multitude casting money into the treasury, and he saw a certain poor woman casting in thither two mites. And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, this poor woman cast in more than they all; for all these did of their superfluity cast in unto the gifts; but she of her want did cast in all the living that she had.

IX.

PATIENCE.

Who hath a harder battle than he who striveth for self-mastery? This should be our endeavor, ever to master self, thus daily to grow stronger, and go on unto perfection:

It is not a small thing when in small things we master ourselves:

The true life of a man lieth in his self-denial:

Thou canst not possess perfect liberty unless altogether thou canst deny thyself.—*I.*

Jesus said, If any man would be my disciple, let him deny himself, and take up his cross. For I came not to do mine own will, but the will of the Father that sent me.

If thou come to serve the Lord, prepare thy soul for temptation:

Set thy heart aright, and constantly endure, and make not haste in time of trouble:

Whatsoever is brought upon thee, take cheerfully; and be patient if thou be changed to a low estate:

For gold is tried in the fire, and acceptable men in the furnace of adversity:

Believe in him, and he will help thee: order thy way aright, and trust in him.—*Ap.*

X.

LOVING FELLOWSHIP.

Love is very great, a good above all others, which alone makes every heavy burden light. For it bears the burden and maketh it no burden; it maketh every bitter thing to be sweet and of good taste:

Love reckons no labors, strives after more than it is able to do, and is not cast down; for it judges all things possible and joyful to it.

Would it suffice thee if thou hadst all, except God?—

Likewise so, whatsoever thou shalt give, if thou give not thyself, it is not unto God.—*I.*

The servants of the Merciful are they who walk meekly on the earth, and when the ignorant speak to them, say, Peace be with you:

And reverence ye the aged, neither chide them, nor reproach them, but speak graciously to them, and have humility toward them, out of tender affection.—*K.*

Without love no work profiteth; but whatsoever is done in love bringeth forth much fruit;

For God looketh not on the strength of the hands, but on the love of the heart.—*I.*

He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is no occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother, is in the darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because the darkness hath blinded his eyes:

He that loveth not abideth in death.

Little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue, but in deed and in truth; and hereby we shall know that we are of the truth and shall assure our hearts before God:

Whoso seeth his brother in need and shutteth up his heart from him, how abideth the love of God in him?

Love is the fulfilling of the law—

To rejoice with them that rejoice, to weep with them that weep, to be eyes to the blind and feet to the lame.

XI.

LOVING FELLOWSHIP.

God that made the world and all things therein, the Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands, neither is worshiped with men's hands as though he needed anything, seeing he giveth to all life and breath and all things:

And hath made of one all nations of men, to dwell on all the face of the earth, that they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him and find him, though he be not far from any one of us.

The same Lord over all is rich unto all that call on him:

As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God; for there are differing gifts but the same spirit; and there are different kinds of service, but the same Lord; and there are different ways of working, but it is the same God that worketh in all.

Behold the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it, until it receive the early and the latter rain:

Be ye also patient, and murmur not one against another.

Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children, and walk in love:

And the God of love and peace will be with us.

XII.

LOVING FELLOWSHIP.

Think of God, of thine own soul, and of thy neighbor: of God that thou mayest remember of whom thou art: of thine own soul, that thou mayest become just; and of thy neighbor, that thou mayest know him to be thy kin.—*A.*

He doeth greatly who doeth anything faithfully; he doeth much who loveth much.—*I.*

God hath ordained that we learn how to bear one another's burdens, because none is without a burden, none sufficient of himself, none wise of himself; but it behooveth us to bear with one another, to help, instruct, and love one another.—*I.*

Blessed is he who loveth God, and his friend in God, and his enemy for God.—*Ag.*

If ye love one another, God dwelleth in you and his love is perfected in you:

God is love, and he that abideth in love abideth in God, and God in him.

This commandment we have, that he who loveth God love his brother also:

He that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

XIII.

ALL SAINTS.

Thanks be to God for his holy saints, thanks be to him who giveth wisdom, which in all ages entering into holy souls maketh them friends of God, and prophets:

The Lord hath wrought great glory by them, through his mighty power, from the beginning:

They were leaders of the people by their counsels;

By their knowledge meet for the people, wise and eloquent in their teachings:

There be of them that have left a name behind them, and their praise is reported:

He made them to hear his voice, and brought them into the holy cloud, and gave them commandments before his face, even the law of life, that they might teach men his judgments:

And some there be who have no memorial; who are gone as though they had never been.

But their righteousness can not fail and the glory of their work can not be blotted out.—*Ap.*

The memorial of virtue is immortal; when it is present men take example of it, and when it is gone they desire it:

It weareth a crown and triumpheth forever, having gotten the victory, striving for undefiled reward:

Thanks be to God for his holy saints; thanks be to him who giveth wisdom:

Which in all ages entering into holy souls, maketh them friends of God, and prophets.—*Ap.*

XIV.

JESUS.

Blessed be the Lord who hath not left himself without witnesses, but hath spoken by the mouth of holy prophets, which have been since the world began.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace, that proclaimeth salvation, that saith to the people, The Lord reigneth!

In the fulness of time Jesus appeared on the earth, and the Spirit of the Lord was upon him:

The spirit of wisdom and understanding, of counsel and of right, of love and of trust in God.

He came not to be ministered unto but to minister:

He went about doing good bearing witness that it is more blessed to give than to receive:

And power was his to preach good tidings to the poor:

To heal the broken-hearted, to comfort those that mourn

To proclaim freedom for the oppressed:

To give light to them that sit in darkness, and to guide their feet in the way of peace.

He was merciful, saying, "Father, forgive them; they know not what they do:"

He loved the poor and humble and the outcast, and sheltered the erring, saying, "Neither do I condemn thee: go and sin no more:"

He loved the beauty of the earth, saying, "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow:"

He loved the beauty of holiness, saying, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."—*M.*

Thanks be to God for his holy saints; thanks be to him who giveth wisdom:

Which in all ages entering into holy souls, maketh them friends of God, and prophets.—*Ap.*

XV.

INSPIRATION.

Word of God, inward light, dawn within me; give me clear sight; awaken my heart—

Holy Spirit, who art eternal Truth:

Be thou as a holy fire in my heart; let my selfishness be burned in the fire of thy love; kindle every holy desire in me—

Holy Spirit, who art eternal Love:

Make me to quit me like thy child and be strong; brave to bear, striving nobly; fill up the strength of my will from thy might—

Holy Spirit, Almighty Power:

Reign thou and be thou King in my soul; be thou my Law; then shall I be free—

Holy Spirit, who art eternal Right:

Gladden thou my heart; spring within me, O Well of Gladness; even if I walk through valleys of shadows, I will rejoice and sing—

Holy Spirit, who art eternal Joy.—*M.*

XVI.

HOPE IN THE FUTURE.

O Land, look about thee, and behold the joy that cometh unto thee from God:

Arise and stand on high, and look about, and behold thy children gathered from the east unto the west by the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God:

Do right for the widow, judge for the fatherless, give to the poor, defend the orphan, clothe the naked:

Heal the broken and the weak, be help to the lame man, defend the maimed, and lead the blind, ye who come into the light:

O land, thou mother, embrace thy children, and bring them up with gladness· make their feet fast as a pillar:

Fear not, thou mother of the children; nourish thy children, O thou good nurse; stablish their feet; I have chosen thee, saith the Lord. —*Ap.*

The Lord will be a judge of the nations and an umpire among the kingdoms; he will make their officers Peace, and their rulers Righteousness:

Men shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more:

For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed; and all men shall see it together:

The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the depths of the sea.

XVII.

THE LORD OUR STRENGTH.

We bless thee in thy power, O God, we bless thee in thy holiness:

We praise thee, who reignest in the farthest heavens, who dwellest in our inmost souls, our Lord and Comforter:

With thee there is no misery to the distressed, but sorrow is hallowed and pain is sweetened:

And hardship is assuaged and fear is calmed; for thou art Blessedness, and thou makest thy children blessed.—*M.*

Blessed is thy presence, O Lord, most holy:

Blessed is it to dwell with thee and to know thee, to rest in thee and to serve thee:

Blessed shall the nations be when thy holiness is known:

Then all will unite in love to help one another, and they who are strong in right will raise them who are weak therein:

Strengthen us, Father of all our spirits, make us strong to be thine in very deed—

To obey cheerfully, to strive loyally, to suffer meekly, to enjoy thankfully.—*M.*

XVIII.

THE ETERNAL PRESENCE.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of ages, who never ceaseth to draw more nigh:

His voice in the morning of the world was heard from afar: in the evening he speaketh at the door, and entereth to abide with us forever.—*M.*

Manifold are thy witnesses, O God, and the angels of thine invisible presence; else had we never known thee:

Thou unsealest the light for all that live, and lookest through the doors of the shadow of death; thou causest the day-spring to know his place, and sayest to the sea, Here shall thy proud waves be stayed:

Yet lo! thou goest by us and we see thee not; thou passest on also, and we see thee not:

But the firmament declareth thy glory, the prophets proclaim thy judgments, the righteous wonder at thy law in their hearts, the patient find thee in the secret places of their sorrow, and their songs break out in melody to thee.—*M.*

XIX.

THE ONE-HUNDRED-THIRTY-NINTH PSALM.

O Lord, thou hast searched me and known me, thou knowest my down-sitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but lo! O Lord, thou knowest it altogether:

Thou hast beset me behind and before and laid thine hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain to it.

Whither shall I go from thy spirit, or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there; if I make my bed in the grave, behold thou art there:

If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me:

If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me, even the night shall be light about me:

Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee, but the night shineth as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to thee:

I will praise thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; wonderful are thy works, and that my soul knoweth right well:

How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! How great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand:

When I awake I am still with thee:

Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

XX.

PEACE BE WITH US.

Blessed be the temple hallowed by the name of the Lord; pray for peace within its walls:

For friends' and brethren's sake, I will never cease to say, Peace be within thee:

What though for him who filleth heaven and earth there can be no dwelling made with hands; what though his way is in the deep, and his knowledge is too wonderful for us, and before him we are as children that cannot speak:

Yet, touched by the altar's living glow, we learn as a child to speak his name; and try the wings that beat for his refuge, and flee as a bird to the mountain.—*M.*

Our fathers thou hast called to thy higher praise; and gathered to their fathers must all the children be:

Let the living, and the living-dead, praise thee, O God, above and below; let all the generations praise thee:

Let angels in the height praise thee who dwellest in the heavens:

Let all thy children on earth praise thee; thou givest the joy of wisdom unto the children of men.—*M.*

XXI.

JOY IN WORSHIP.

O come let us sing unto the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our Salvation:

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

It is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves: we are his people and the sheep of his pasture:

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

O bless the Lord, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard:

Who holdeth our soul in life and suffereth not our feet to be moved.

My soul, wait for the Lord, more than they that watch for the morning:

He wakeneth morning by morning; he wakeneth mine ear to hear.

Because thy loving kindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee:

I will bless thee while I live; I will lift up my hand in his name.

XXII.

HE KEEPETH TRUTH.

Though it be but as a grain of mustard seed, and it be hidden in a rock, or in the heavens, or in the earth, God bringeth the truth to light:

It is he who foldeth you to himself at night and knows what ye merit by day. He also awakens you, that the appointed time be fulfilled:

Whatever good ye shall do in your life, ye shall find it with God.—*K.*

Put on thy strength more bravely than before.—*I.*

However things may seem, no evil thing is success and no good thing is failure:

Let our life be truth, for this serveth all men.—*M.*

The face of the Lord is against them that do evil,

To cut off remembrance of them from the earth.

Behold, thou hast set them on slippery places, thou castest them down into unseen pits.

Lo, they are brought to desolation in a moment, and utterly consumed with sudden dest.uction.

Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it:

Except the Lord keep the city the watchman waketh but in vain.

Open thou mine eyes,

That I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.

XXIII.

LOVE AND FELLOWSHIP.

The body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of the body, being many, are one body. God hath set the members each one of them in the body even as it pleased him. And the eye cannot say to the hand, I have no need of you; nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you:

And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it:

In like manner, ye are all one body; and when ye come together in the church, let not divisions exist among you:

For there are diversities of ministration, but the same Lord; and there are diversities of working, but the same God, who worketh all things in all.

It is right that ye desire earnestly the greater gifts. And yet I show unto you a still more excellent way. If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels but have not love, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy and know all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And if I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profiteth me nothing:

Love suffereth long and is kind; love envieth not, love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not its own, is not provoked, thinketh no evil, rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in truth, beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things:

Love never faileth; but whether there be prophesyings, they shall end; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall be done away:

For we know in part, and we prophesy in part; but when that which is perfect is come, that which is in part shall be done away:

For now we see in a mirror, darkly; but then face to face; now I know in part, but then shall I know even as also I am known:

But now abide faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of them is love.

XXIV.

THE LAW OF LIBERTY.

Open thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law: I shall walk in liberty when I seek thy precepts. Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty:

Ye shall know the truth, said Jesus, and the truth shall make you free:

We have received not the spirit of bondage whereby to fear, but the spirit of adoption, whereby we say, Our Father.

The Spirit himself beareth witness with our spirit that we are children of God:

The earnest expectation of the creation waiteth for the revealing of the sons of God:

That the creation itself also be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

Jesus saith, He that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him: as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things; the Father hath not left me alone:

He that doeth the will of God shall know the truth of God:

Whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his work.

So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.

XXV.

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH PSALM.

Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for him; fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass; cease from anger and forsake wrath:

For yet a little while and the wicked shall not be; yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and he shall not be; but the meek shall inherit the land, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but the Lord upholdeth the righteous:

The Lord knoweth the days of the upright, and their inheritance shall be forever.

A man's goings are established of the Lord, and he delighteth in his way; though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down, for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand:

I have been young and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread:

The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide:

Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright; for the end of that man is peace.

XXVI.

FAITHFULNESS.

Rest not thy peace on the words of men; whether they judge well or ill of thee, thou art not any other than thyself; art thou the holier if praised, or worse if reproached?—

Thou art what thou art, nor canst be better than God knoweth thee.—*I.*

For all joys take this, to be conscious of obeying God:

We are appointed to this service.—*E.* And not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth.

Work at what is before thee, turning not aside for anything, keeping thy divine part pure as if thou shouldst be called to give it back immediately; hold to this, demanding naught, fearing naught, content so thou live actively according to nature, with heroic truth in every deed and word; thou wilt live happy. There is no man who is able to prevent this.—*A.*

No evil can befall a good man, either in this life or after death.—*S.*

Hath not God entrusted thee to thyself?

He hath entrusted us to ourselves, and saith, Keep thy soul for me as from me it is, modest, faithful, unterrified, free.—*E.*

He that doeth the will of God, shall know the truth of God:

Set your mind, therefore, on the things above, striving to be followers of that which is good:

The stars in their courses uphold the righteous; the stones of the field are in league with him.

All things work together for good to them that love God.

XXVII.

A LOWLY HEART.

Who safely commandeth?

None but him who loveth to obey:

If there be aught good in thee, believe that there is much more in others:

So may we preserve a lowly heart within us:

It will do thee no harm to think thyself less than all men; but it will hurt thee to prefer thyself before any one man.—*I.*

Be the thought of God with us, unto lowly love and virtue in our souls, that we seek not to raise ourselves above any one, but to lift our hearts to what is good and true.—*M.*

By thinking first of myself I lose myself, but by seeking sincerely unto thee, O God, I find both myself and Thee:

Unto the lowly of heart God revealeth his counsels, and sweetly draweth and inviteth them unto himself.—*I.*

Thus saith the High and Holy One, who inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place—

With him also who is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

Watch and pray, to walk worthily of the calling wherewith we are called:

Which is with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; giving diligence to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.

Not looking each to his own things, but each also to the things of others:

Yea, all be clothed with humility, to serve one another; for God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble.

There is one body and one spirit:

And one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in all.

XXVIII.

THE BEAUTY AND GLORY OF NATURE.

God ordaineth the day and the night, the sun, the moon and the stars. He maketh the night as a garment unto us; and sleep for rest; and the day for waking:

Verily herein are signs unto people who take thought:

God ordaineth the sea; and ye see the ships ploughing through it, that ye may seek of his abundance, and that ye may give thanks. And on the earth are mountains, firmly rooted, and rivers and paths, that ye be directed; and by the stars too are ye guided:

Surely herein is a sign unto people who consider:

Seest thou not God gently drive the clouds, and gather them together, and up pile them? Then falleth the rain from them, to quicken the land and give to drink to that which is created, both tender herb, cattle, and men:

Verily herein is a lesson unto those who have sight:

Who bringeth forth the living from the dead and the dead from the living, and giveth food? The earth is prepared for living creatures; therein are fruits with sheaths, grain having husks, and herbs:

Which then of your Lord's benefits will ye ungratefully deny?

There are made gardens of palm-trees and vines, of corn and olives and grapes; and springs gush forth in them, that ye may eat of the fruits of them and of the labor of your hands:

Which then of your Lord's benefits will ye take thankless?

God maketh the cattle for you; from them ye have warmth and benefit, and they carry your burdens. In them there is beauty for you, when ye drive them home to rest and when ye lead them forth to feed. He maketh the cattle for you, and for them he maketh you, that ye care for them mercifully. And the wild creatures also he maketh, in beauty and gladness:

Verily herein is a sign unto people who take thought.—*K.*

Whereon are the foundations of the earth fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof, when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? Who shut up the sea with doors, and said, Hitherto shalt thou come but no further and here shall thy proud waves be stayed? Hast thou entered into the springs of the sea, and walked in the secret paths of the deep? Where is the way to the abode of light? and darkness—where is its dwelling place? Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days, and caused the day-spring to know his place? Have the gates of death been opened unto thee, or hast thou seen the doors of the shadow of death? Hath the rain a Father? Or who hath begotten the drops of dew? Canst thou send forth lightnings, that they may go, and say unto thee, Here we are? Doth the hawk fly by thy wisdom, and stretch her wings toward the south? Doth the eagle mount up at thy command, and make her nest on high?

Lift up our eyes and see who hath created these, who bringeth out their hosts by number; he calleth them all by name; by the glory of his power, and for that he is Almighty, not one lacketh.

Canst thou by searching find out God? Canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection? It is high as heaven; What canst thou do? Deeper than the grave; what canst thou know?

Behold I go forward, but he is not there: and backward, but I can not perceive him; on the left hand, when he doth work, but I can not behold him; he hideth himself on the right hand that I can not see him. But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

Stand in awe, and sin not:

And commune with thy heart, and be still.

XXIX.

THE SEASONS OF FLOWERS AND FRUITS.

Lord, the day is thine, the night also is thine. Thou hast prepared the light and the sun, thou hast set all the borders of the earth, thou hast made summer and winter:

Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment; who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:

In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race:

His going forth is from the end of the heaven and his circuit unto the ends of it; and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

He covereth the heaven with clouds, he prepareth rain for the earth, he maketh grass to grow upon the mountains:

He cometh down like rain upon the mown field, as showers that water the earth:

The flowers appear on the earth, the flower of the field flourisheth, and the singing birds return; they sing among the branches:

There be showers of blessing. And the tree of the field yieldeth her fruit and the earth yieldeth her increase:

He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle and herb for the service of man, that he may bring forth food out of the earth:

He visiteth the earth and watereth it; he greatly enricheth it with the river of God which is full of water; he provideth them corn when he hath so prepared the earth:

The pastures are clothed with flocks, the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing:

Mountains, and all hills, fruitful trees, and all cedars, beast, and all cattle, creeping things, and flying fowl, ye waters, ye sun and moon, all ye stars of light, ye heavens of heavens, praise ye the name of the Lord. Young men and maidens, old men and children, all ye people, praise ye the name of the Lord.

XXX.

THE WINTER.

Lord, the day is thine, the night also is thine. Thou hast prepared the light and the sun, thou hast set all the borders of the earth, thou hast made summer and winter:

The Lord hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm; he bindeth up the waters in his thick clouds:

The cold cometh out of the north; by the breath of God is ice given, and the breadth of the waters is straightened; the waters are hidden as with a stone, and the face of the deep is frozen:

Hast thou seen the treasuries of the hail? Knowest thou the ordinances of the heavens? Canst thou lift up thy voice to the clouds? And the hoar frost of heaven, who hath gendered it?

He saith to the snow, Fall thou on the earth:

He giveth snow like wool; he scattereth the hoar frost like ashes: he casteth forth his ice like morsels:

Stand still, and consider the wondrous works of God. Dost thou know how God layeth his charge upon them? Dost thou know the balancings of the clouds? Hast thou entered into the treasuries of the snow?

Fire and hail, snow and vapor, stormy wind fulfilling his word, praise ye the name of the Lord.

XXXI.

DIVINE PRESENCE.

The East and the West are God's, and whithersoever ye turn yourselves to pray, there is the face of God:—*K.*

Him whom I wish to exalt with my praise, I now see with my eye and hear with my ear, knowing him to be God, the reality of the good mind, the good deed, the good word.—*Z.*

Know ye not that ye are of God? Have ye not in you the presence of divinity? Will ye not remember it?—*E.*

The soul to whom all things are One, who bringeth all things to One, who seeth all things in One, is able to remain steadfast in spirit and at rest in God.—*I.*

In God we live and move:

In Him we have our being.

He that spreadeth out the heavens and walketh on the waves of the sea, that maketh the day dark with night and turneth the shadows of the night into morning, that calleth for the waters of the deep and poureth them out upon the face of the earth—

The Lord is his name.

With him is the fountain of life:

Through his light we see light.

All creatures look up to thee. Thou openest thy hand, they are filled with good: thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created.

The Eternal God is our refuge, and underneath us are the everlasting arms.

XXXII.

HE LEADETH US.

Thus saith the High and Holy One, that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy, I dwell in the high and holy place; with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite ones:

I will bring the blind by a way that they know not of, I will lead them in paths that they have not known. I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight.

When thou walkest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee:

When thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned, neither shall the flame kindle upon thee:

For the mountains shall depart and the hills be removed, but my kindness shall not depart from thee:

Neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee.

XXXIII.

HE SEEKETH SOULS.

The eyes of the Lord are on all his children:

To write on their hearts, that they may know him, from the least even unto the greatest:

Through the tender mercies of our God, the day-spring from on high visiteth us:

To give light to them that sit in darkness, and to guide our feet into the ways of peace.

He is found of them that sought him not; he pursueth the souls that had forgotten him:

O Lord, give unto thy people a pure spirit, that they may call on thy name to serve thee with one consent:

To tell glad tidings unto the meek and proclaim peace from the Lord.—*M.*

XXXIV.

WAIT FOR THE LORD.

Set not thyself to attain much rest, but much patience. Wouldst thou have that immediately which many have not attained unto after many tears and hard labor? Wait for the Lord. Be not faint-hearted, nor go aside from God. Quit ye like men; be strong:

Without striving, who can win the crown of obedience? Without labor, who draweth near to rest?—

He who seeketh thee, O Lord, doth not so easily slip:

And if he fall, yet quickly he shall be delivered through thee, or comforted.

If thou know how to hold thy peace and to endure, without doubt thou shalt see the help of the Lord:

Who coming humbly to the fountain of peace, carrieth not away some little of that peace?—*I.*

God is our refuge and strength: the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them afar off upon the sea.

Wait on the Lord, and be of good courage; he will strengthen thine heart.

He that goeth forth weeping, bearing precious seed, shall surely come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

All things work together for good to them that love God.

Mark the perfect man and behold the upright; for the end of that man is peace:

Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart:

The path of the just is as the dawning light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

Wait on the Lord, and be of good courage; he will strengthen thine heart.

XXXV.

FAITH AND TRUST.

Eternal One, of all that is, thou art both beginning and end:

Though through unknown paths, yet we follow thee; for to thee must all beings come:

Thy judgments are a mighty deep; our wisdom is a childlike heart:

Our strength is trust in thee:

We bless thee for the skies above us, and for the earth beneath us, and for the hopes that live within us:

Yea, and if we die, the hopes wither not, but live.—*M.*

Thou who art light within us, we bless thee for thyself:

Thy dayspring in our hearts dispelleth the darkness of our wrong doing:

Be thou the deeper joy in our happiness, our comfort in grief:

By day the strength of our toil, our rest at night:

Lo, these earthly dwellings shall fail and the end of time come unto us:

But thou art our dwelling place and our eternal home.—*M.*

XXXVI.

THE ONE-HUNDRED-AND-FORTY-SEVENTH PSALM.

Praise ye the Lord, for it is good to sing praises unto our God:

It is pleasant, and praise is comely:

He healeth the broken in heart and bindeth up their wounds:

He telleth the number of the stars, he calleth them all by their names.

Sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving, who covereth the heaven with clouds, who prepareth rain for the earth, who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains:

He giveth to the beast his food and to the young ravens which cry:

He maketh peace in thy borders and filleth them with the finest of the wheat:

He sendeth forth his commandment upon the earth, his word runneth very swiftly:

He giveth snow like wool, he scattereth the hoar frost like ashes, he casteth forth his ice like morsels; who can stand before his cold?

He sendeth out his word and melteth them; he causeth his wind to blow and the waters flow:

He showeth his word unto us:

His statutes and his judgments unto his people.

XXXVII.

PATIENCE.

Set thy heart aright, and constantly endure, and make not haste in time of trouble. Look at the generations of old and see; did ever any trust in the Lord and was confounded? or did any abide in his fear, and was forsaken?—

Or whom did he ever despise that called upon him?—

For as his Majesty is, so is his Mercy.—*Ap.*

Woe unto you that have lost patience. And what will ye do when the Lord shall visit you?—

They that fear the Lord will prepare their hearts and humble their souls in his sight:

Saying, We will fall into the hands of the Lord and not into the hands of men:

For as his Majesty is, so is his Mercy.—*Ap.*

XXXVIII.

REJOICING.

Be of good cheer; let thy heart cheer thee:

Rejoice; and again I say unto you, Rejoice.

The conversation of wisdom hath no bitterness:

To live with it hath no sorrow, but mirth and joy:

The fear of the Lord maketh a merry heart, and giveth joy and gladness:

The fear of the Lord is a crown of wisdom, making peace and health to flourish, which are the gifts of God; and it enlargeth their rejoicing that love him.—*Ap.*

Our Lord hath brought us into this place, and hath given us this land, even a land that floweth with milk and honey:

And thou shalt rejoice in every good thing which God hath given unto thee.

He maketh the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice:

Sing, O heavens, and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains; for the Lord comforteth his people.

XXXIX.

REJOICING.

Rejoice evermore. We have good tidings of great joy unto all people:

We rejoice in hope, in a lively hope:

In an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled:

They that love His name shall be joyful in him.

In the presence of God is fulness of joy, yea, exceeding joy; in the shadow of his wings will I rejoice:

My heart danceth for joy, and in my song will I praise him.

Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar and the fulness thereof; let the field be joyful and all that is therein: then shall the trees of the woods sing out at the presence of the Lord:

Because he cometh to judge the earth.

The Lord reigneth; let the earth rejoice:

Let the multitude of isles be glad.

XL.

BEAUTY AND GLORY IN NATURE.

The sun that giveth light looketh on all things, and the work thereof is full of the glory of the Lord:

When it appeareth, it declareth at its rising a marvelous instrument, the work of the Most High:

The moon also he maketh, to serve in her season — the beauty of the heaven, the glory of the stars, giving light in the highest places of the Lord:

At the commandment of the Holy One, they will stand in their order and never faint in their watches.—*Ap.*

Look on the rainbow and praise him who maketh it; very beautiful it is in the brightness thereof:

It compasseth the heaven about with a glorious circle, and the hands of the Most High have bended it:

He commandeth the snow to fall apace, and sendeth swiftly his lightnings:

The treasures are opened; the clouds fly forth as fowls:

The noise of the thunder maketh the earth tremble; so doth the storm and the whirlwind; as birds flying, the snow is scattered, and the falling down thereof is as the lighting of grasshoppers: the eye marveleth at the beauty of the whiteness thereof, and the heart is astonished at the raining of it.—*Ap.*

The hoar frost also as salt ne scattereth on the earth; and when the cold wind bloweth, and the water is congealed into ice, it abideth on every gathering together of water, and clothes it as with a breast-plate:

How shall we be able to glorify the Lord? When ye exalt him, put forth all your strength and be not weary; for ye never can go far enough:

There are yet hid greater things than these be; for we have seen but a few of his works.—*Ap.*

XLI.

IMMORTAL LIFE.

Marvelous, beautiful and precious are the creatures of God:

There is a beauty of their spirit which is imperishable:

Great and glorious is our life, healthful and strong, filled with love and with knowledge:

Everywhere, at all times, men have proclaimed that in death we die not.—*M.*

Jesus said, In my Father's house are many mansions. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

It is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

He hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit, which beareth witness with our spirit. For the spirit searcheth all things, even the deep things of God.

None of us liveth to himself and no man dieth to himself; for whether we live, we live unto the Lord, and whether we die, we die unto the Lord:

Whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

In all things we are more than conquerors through him that loveth us:

I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God.

XLII.

HIS HAND HOLDETH.

I know not if or dark or bright
Shall be my lot;

If that wherein my hopes delight
Be best or not.

My bark is wafted from the strand
By breath divine,

And on the helm there rests a hand
Other than mine.

How can I fear the storm to sail,
With him on board?
Above the raging of the gale
I hear my Lord.

He holds me when the billows smite;
I shall not fall.
If sharp, 'tis short; if long, 'tis light;

He tempers all.

Safe to the land!

Safe to the land,
Unknown, but there!

And then with him go, hand in hand,

On, anywhere!—*M.*

XLIII.

TO BE ALIVE.

We wake each morn as if the Maker's grace
Did us afresh from nothingness derive,

That we might sing, "How happy is our case,
How beautiful it is to be alive!"

Lo! all around us his bright servants stand:
And if with frowning brows for their disguise,
Yet with such wells of love in their deep eyes,

And so strong rescue hidden in their hands!

And our lives may in glory move along;
First holy white, and then all good, and fair
For our dear Lord to see,—

The very air
We breathe, self-shaped into a natural song.

And ever toward new heights we still may strive,—
Till, just as any other friend's, we press
Death's hand;

And, having died, feel none the less,
How beautiful it is to be alive!—*M.*

XLIV.

THOUGHTS OF GOD.

I saw the beauty of the world
Before me like a flag unfurled,
The splendor of the morning sky,
And all the stars in company;
I thought, How beautiful it is!—

My soul said, "There is more than this":

I saw the pomps of death and birth,
The generations of the earth;
I looked on saints and heroes crowned,
And love as wide as heaven is round;
I thought, How wonderful it is!—

My soul said, "There is more than this":

Sometimes I have an awful thought
That bids me do the thing I ought;
It comes like wind, it burns like flame;
How shall I give that thought a name?
It draws me like a loving kiss,—

My soul says, "There is more than this":

Yea, there is One I cannot see
Or hear,

But he is Lord to me:

And in the heavens and earth and skies,
The good which lives till evil dies,
The love which I cannot withstand,

God writes his name with his own hand.—*M.*

XLV.

THANKSGIVING.

Praise be to God,

And thanksgiving forever,

To whom we owe all our blessings,

Who crowneth us with loving-kindness ana tender mercies:

For all the fruits of the field, for the stores of the garden, for the flocks that whiten the plain, the grass that feedeth the cattle and the grain that nourisheth men,

Our souls give thee glad thanksgiving and solemn praise, O Lord!

For the beauty and promise of the Spring, for the glory of the Summer, for the rich stores of the Autumn and for Winter's snow and brightness,

Our souls give thee glad thanksgiving and solemn praise, O Lord!

For peace, prosperity and health, for wealth and happiness, for the joys of love, the shelter of home, the glad streams of knowledge, the holy light of religion,

Our souls give thee glad thanksgiving and solemn praise, O Lord!—*M.*

Let our church and homes ring with anthems,

While our mouths and hearts sing the mercies of the Lord—

Whose bounty never ends, whose goodness never fails,

Whose loving kindness is our habitation:

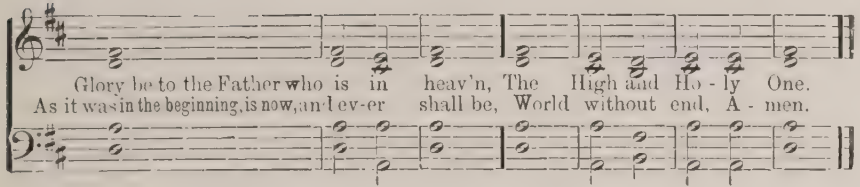
Break into praise, my soul! All nature join! All creatures lift their voices together! While our years are measured by the sun, while eternity shall run its course, praise the Lord whose goodness is never-ending!

Praise him with songs of thanksgiving! Be joyful of heart before him.—*M.*

RESPONSE-READINGS-MUSIC.

I

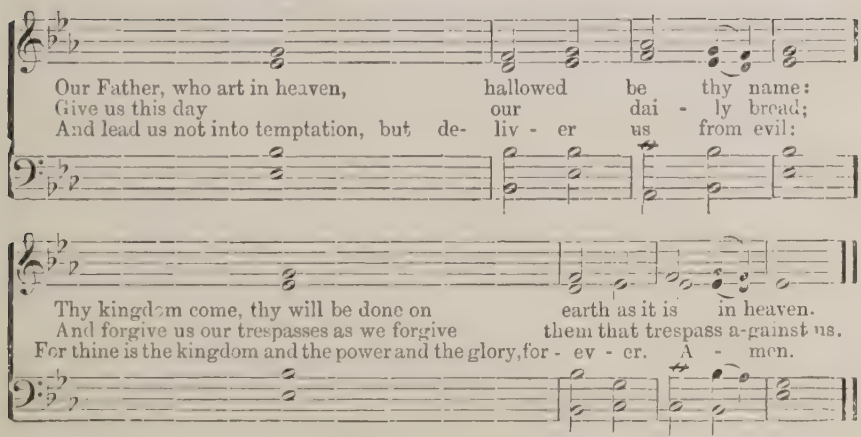
GLORIA.


Glory be to the Father who is in heav'n, The High and Ho - ly One.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ev-er shall be, World without end, A - men.

II

OUR FATHER.

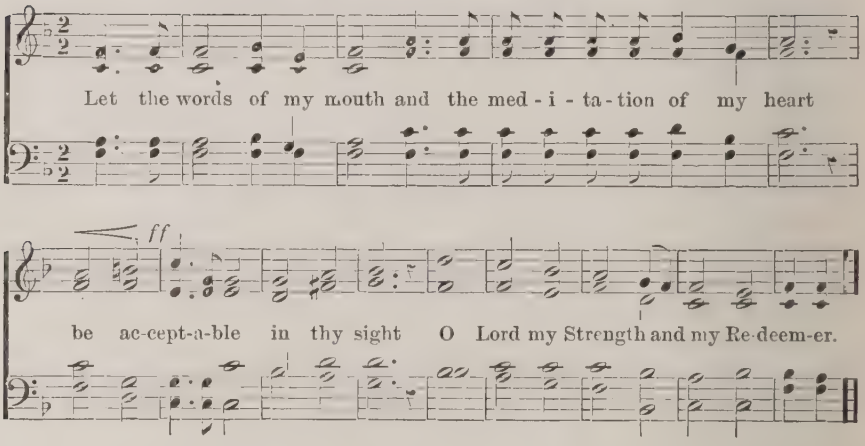
After Response-Readings i–xv.


Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name:
Give us this day our dai - ly bread;
And lead us not into temptation, but de- liv - er us from evil:
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass a-gainst us.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, for - ev - er. A - men.

III

MY STRENGTH AND MY REDEEMER.

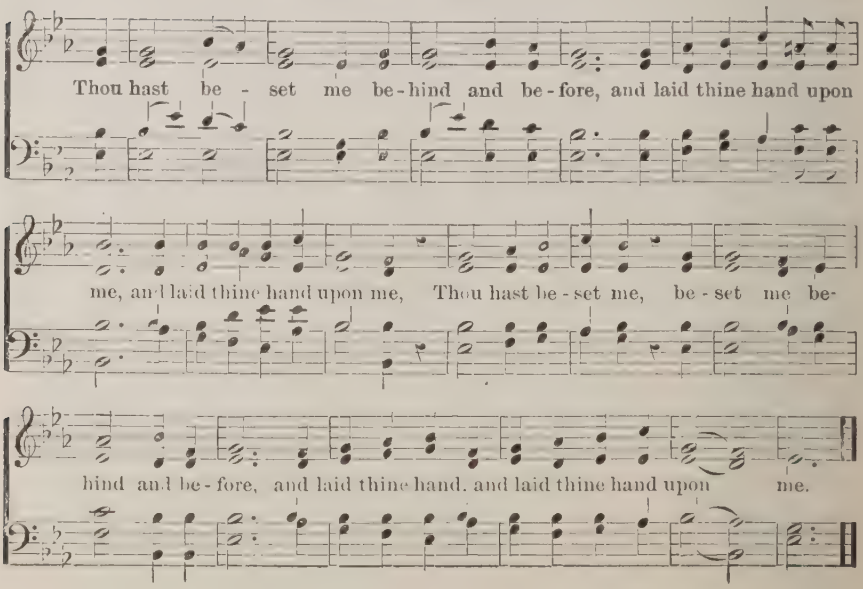
After Response–Readings xvi–xxx.



IV

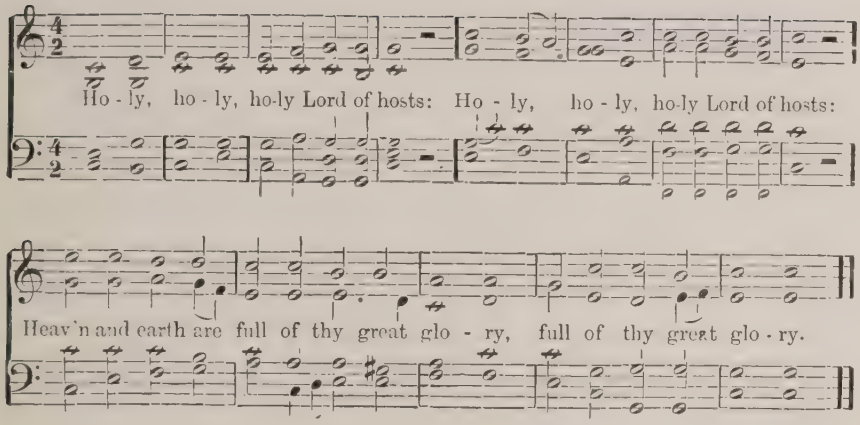
THOU HAST BESET ME.

After Response–Readings xxxi–xlv.

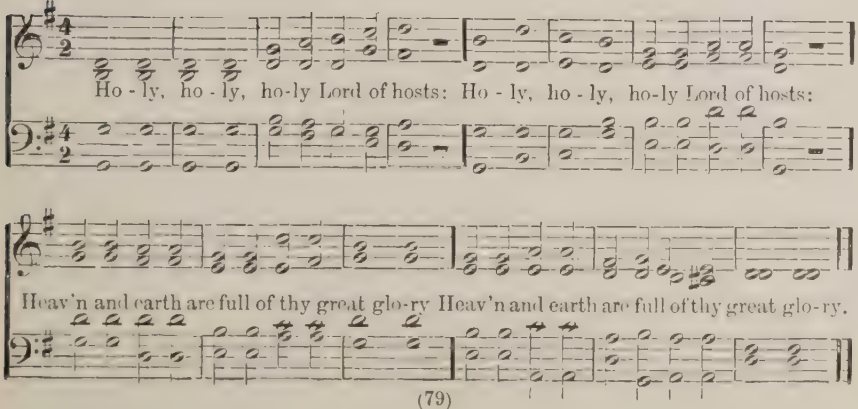

Thou hast be - set me be-hind and be - fore, and laid thine hand upon
me, and laid thine hand upon me, Thou hast be - set me, be - set me be-
hind and be - fore, and laid thine hand. and laid thine hand upon me.

SANCTUS.

I.

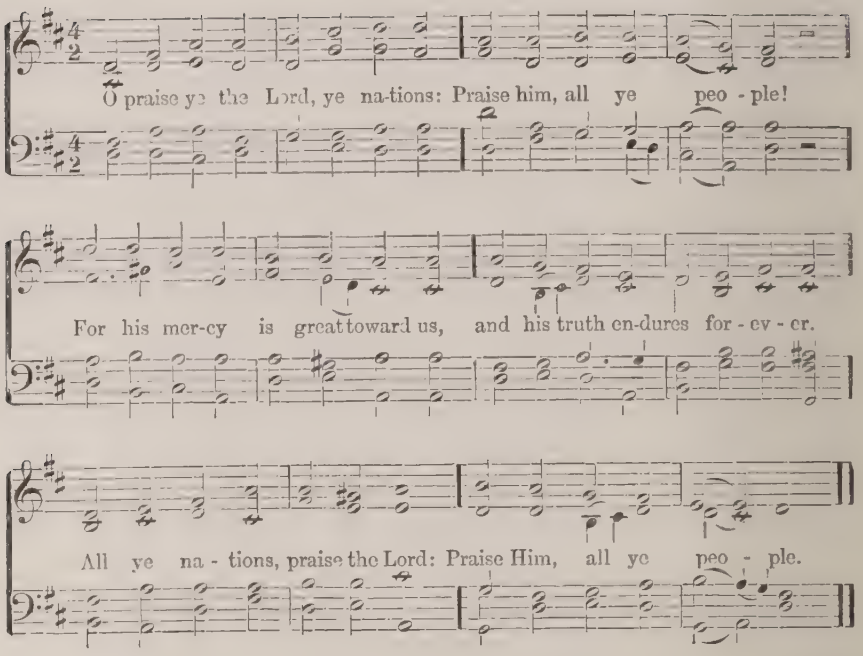

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord of hosts: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord of hosts:
Heav'n and earth are full of thy great glo - ry, full of thy great glo - ry.

II.

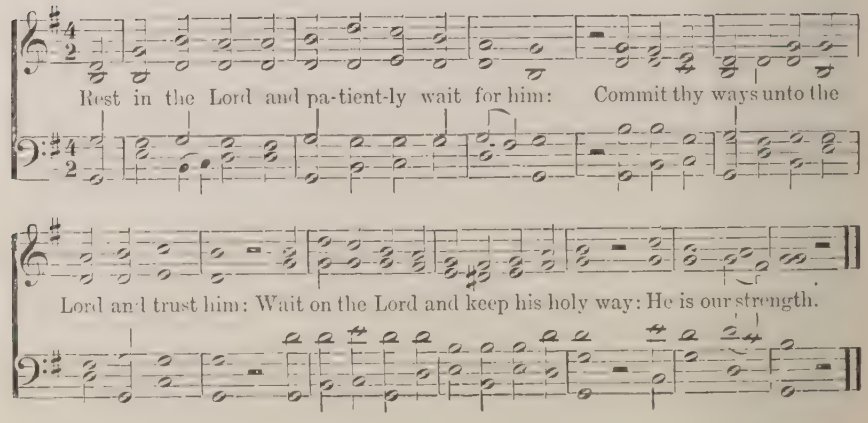

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord of hosts: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord of hosts:
Heav'n and earth are full of thy great glo-ry Heav'n and earth are full of thy great glo-ry.

III.

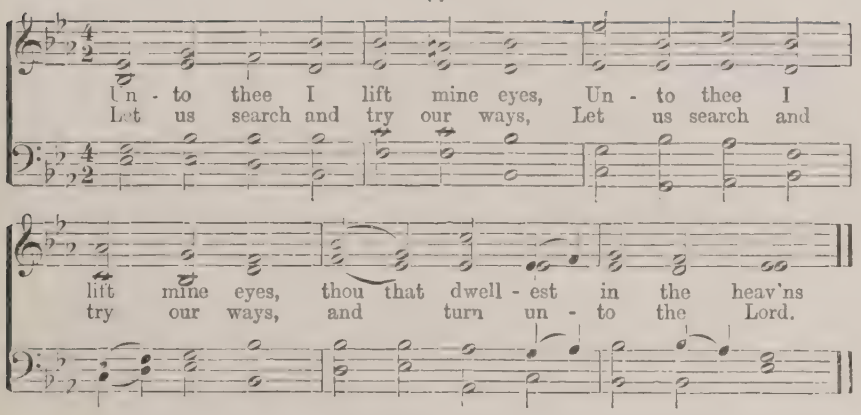
(Psalm cvii.)


O praise ye the Lord, ye na-tions: Praise him, all ye peo - ple!
For his mer-cy is great toward us, and his truth en-dures for - ev - er.
All ye na - tions, praise the Lord: Praise Him, all ye peo - ple.

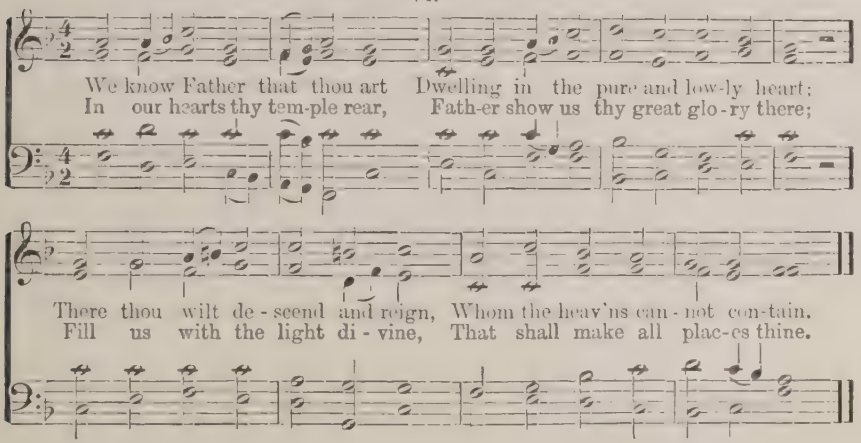
IV.


Rest in the Lord and pa-tient-ly wait for him: Commit thy ways unto the
Lord and trust him: Wait on the Lord and keep his holy way: He is our strength.

V.

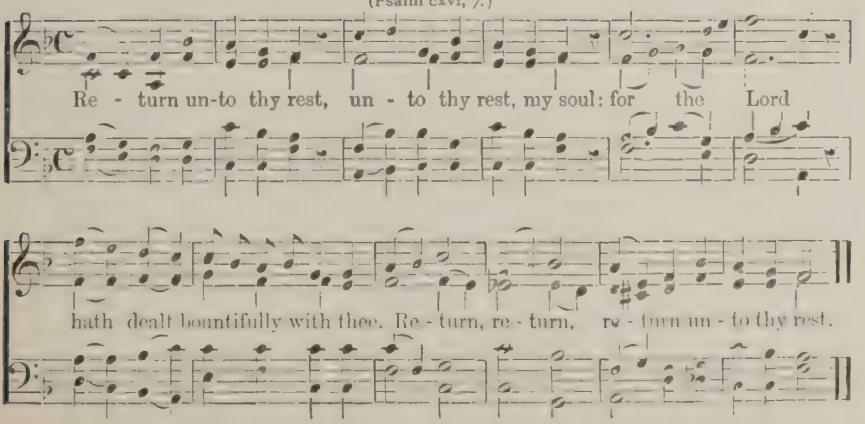

Un - to thee I lift mine eyes, Un - to thee I
Let us search and try our ways, Let us search and
lift mine eyes, thou that dwell - est in the heav'ns
try our ways, and turn un - to the Lord.

VI.


We know Father that thou art Dwelling in the pure and low-ly heart;
In our hearts thy tem-ple rear, Fath-er show us thy great glo-ry there;
There thou wilt de - scend and reign, Whom the heav'ns can - not con-tain.
Fill us with the light di - vine, That shall make all plac-es thine.

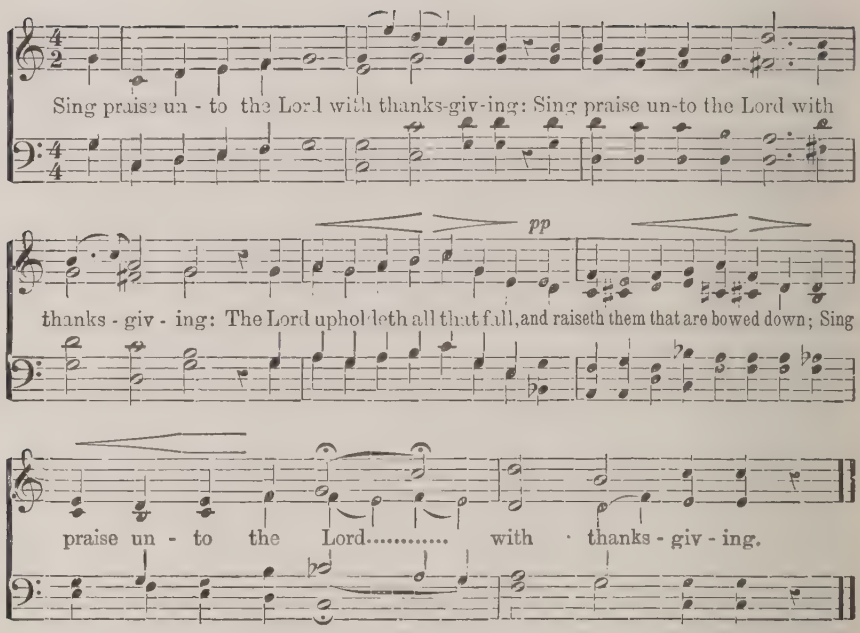
VII.

(Psalm cxvi, 7.)


Re - turn un-to thy rest, un - to thy rest, my soul: for the Lord
hath dealt bountifully with thee. Re - turn, re - turn, re - turn un - to thy rest.

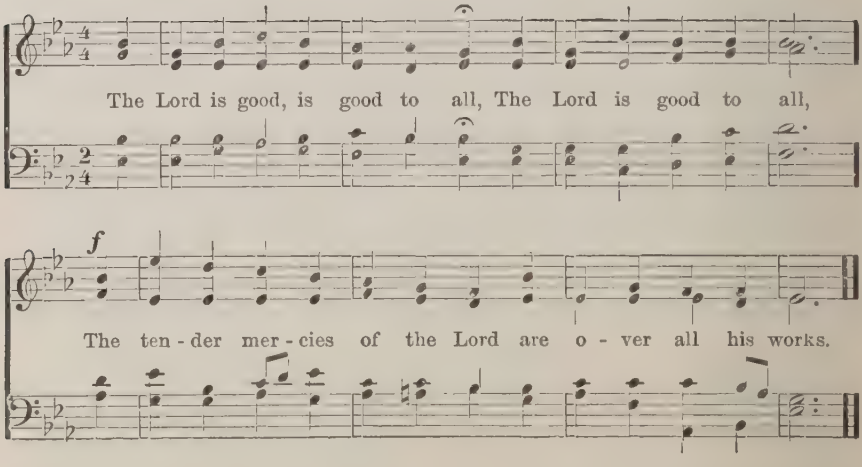
VIII

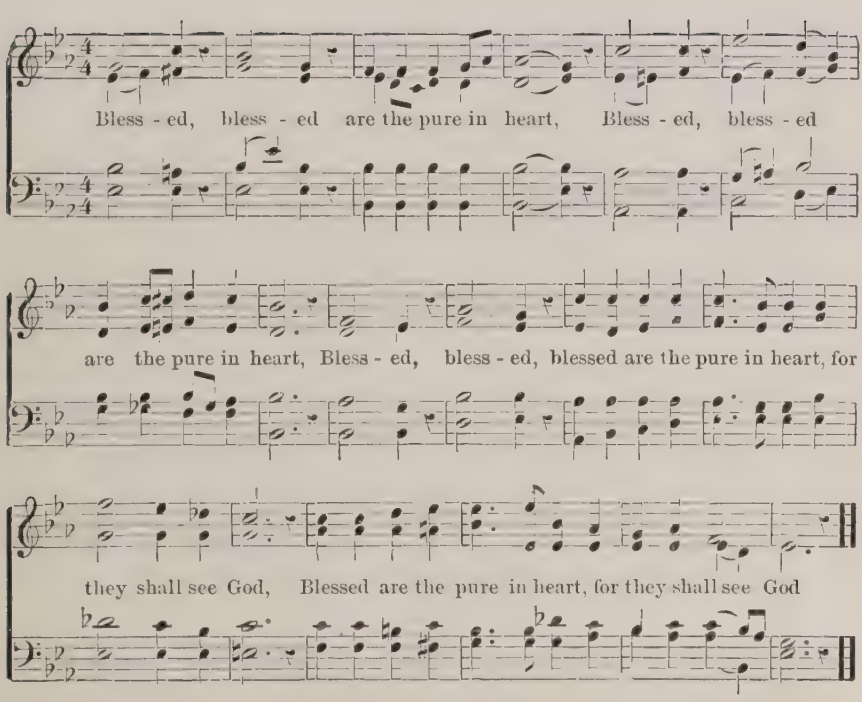
(Psalm cxlv.)


Sing praise un - to the Lord with thanks-giv-ing: Sing praise un-to the Lord with
pp
thanks - giv - ing: The Lord upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth them that are bowed down; Sing
praise un - to the Lord..... with thanks - giv - ing.

IX

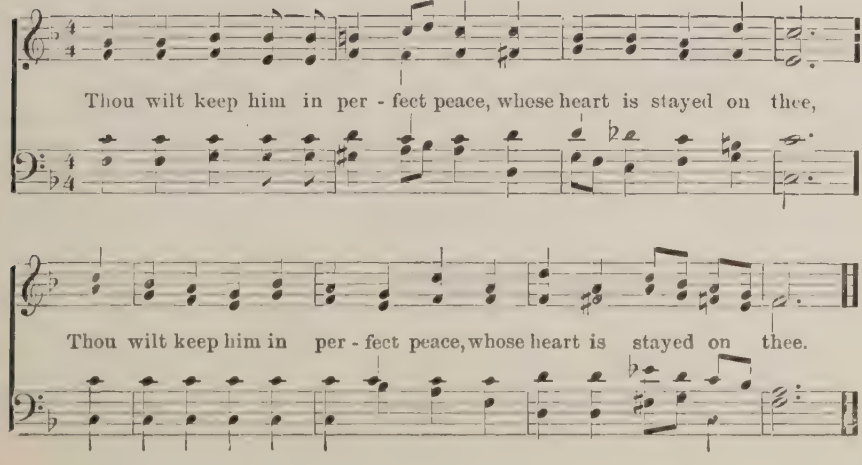
(Psalm cxlv.)



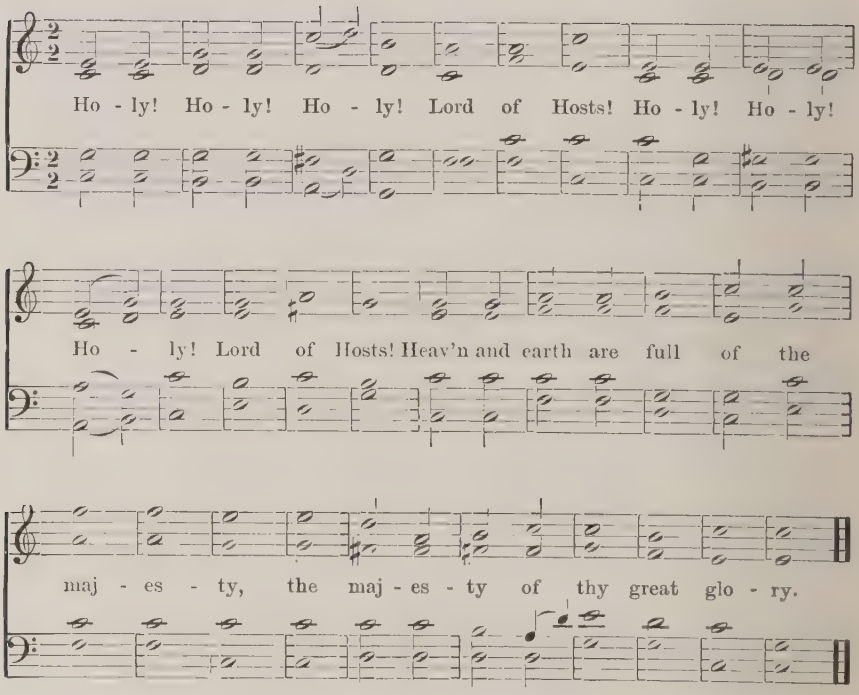
X

Bless - ed, bless - ed are the pure in heart, Bless - ed, bless - ed
are the pure in heart, Bless - ed, bless - ed, blessed are the pure in heart, for
they shall see God, Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God

XI

(Isaiah xxvi.)


Thou wilt keep him in per - fect peace, whose heart is stayed on thee,
Thou wilt keep him in per - fect peace, whose heart is stayed on thee.

XII


Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Lord of Hosts! Ho - ly! Ho - ly!
Ho - ly! Lord of Hosts! Heav'n and earth are full of the
maj - es - ty, the maj - es - ty of thy great glo - ry.

PRAYERS.

I

Let thy law in our hearts be our portion, O God. Create in us a clean heart and renew a right spirit within us, that we may pray to thee in truth. Thou art God of Truth. Thy word is truth and truth is thy word, enduring forever.

II

Praise be to thee, O Lord. Behold I with mine eyes all thy mercies. Out of the heavens thy love raineth like unto rivers. Let me think what is the might of thy hand, who daily meets me with blessings.

III

Praise be to thee, our Father, for the day of light and the night's stillness, for the earth's beauty and the heavens of the sun and stars, for our beloved on the earth, for the thought of thee in our hearts, for the knowledge of duty, and for immortal life.

IV

Father of truth, around us and in us art thou—Eternal Light which lighteth every one that cometh into the world. Give us to search thy teachings without ceasing, Lord, to behold in thy laws the way of our feet. Blessed be thou Father Eternal, who hast given us thy teachings and set thy law within us.

V

Then, O Lord, can I praise thee with an unfeigned heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous laws. Then shall I walk in freedom, when I follow thy commandments. O teach me thy law within me.

VI

If our lot be lowly, O Lord, yet hast thou not given us high work to do? Then is our lot as high as our work, whereto thou callest us— to do loving deeds, to think charitable thoughts, to live unto thee in truth Strengthen thou our hearts, O God!

VII

Lord, thy peace be with us, the peace that passeth understanding, that spreadeth out like the heavens, like a tent to dwell in. Peace be in us with our lot; peace be in our houses, that works and words of love be in them. Let us hear what God will speak: for thou wilt speak peace unto thy people.

VIII

Father in heaven, we pray to thee that we may think of thy law in our hearts and may rejoice in thy truth. Be thy law light and life unto us in the lengthening of our days. May we be glad in obedience, lowly of heart, rejoicing in faith.

IX

Thou hast given to thy children the duty of labor, O God. Teach us to guard well thy portion which thou hast given us, and the lot thou hast bestowed, that we may live unto thee, our Father.

X

The God of love and peace hallow all love and peace in our hearts. Thou whose earth and the heavens show forth peace, order and joy, give of thy peace and consolation unto us and to all men; and grace to be ministers of thee one to another.

XI

Lord, thou givest strength unto thy people, thou blessest thy people with peace. Thy peace be in our houses, that love may abound: and in this congregation, that no discord dwell among brethren. Thy peace be unto this city of homes, unto our country, unto the world.

XII

May the blessings and everlasting love of God unto us in Providence, become service in us, and ministry to one another; that as the kindness of the Father is unto the children, so may be the deeds of the children in love.

XIII

Eternal Voice, the wisdom of saint and seer is of thee, of thee the light of holy prophets, and the love that speaketh unto the prayerful spirit. We bless thee for holy souls that reveal thee; for the unknown and lowly whose daily lives are offerings heroic, sweet and beautiful to thee; and for thy voice that speaketh within us.

XIV

Eternal Voice, the wisdom of saint and seer is of thee; of thee the light of holy prophets, and the love that speaketh unto the prayerful spirit. We bless thee for holy souls that witness of God. Glory be in the highest; and on earth peace, good will to men.

XV

Father of Light, Father of Love, from whom cometh down every good and perfect gift, thy peace be in us, thy power gird us, that we may take joys with humility, losses with patience, griefs with trust, all things devoutly.

XVI

Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace, good will to men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory.

XVII

Father all-merciful, thy help ever is near. In loving kindness thou sustainest the living, thou upholdest the falling, healest the sick, loosest bonds, and keepest faith with our beloved who are hidden in thee.

XVIII

Our Father, we live in thee. A thousand years roll over the children of men, and in thy sight it is as a day, but as yesterday when it is past. The generations come forth, live and go unto thee. From everlasting to everlasting thou art God.

XIX

The law of the Lord is perfect, giving life to the soul. The precepts of the Lord are sure, giving wisdom to the simple. Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer.

XX

Father in heaven, we know that we are pilgrims on this earth, which is thine and the fullness thereof; that here thou hast appointed us to hope, to work, to wait, to rejoice, to be of good courage, till thou call us to enter into the unseen things unto thee.

XXI

Day by day, O Father, we behold thee more, Providence of Love, who bringest unto us everlasting good. Not forward to look, nor behind, we pray, nor to cry for hopes, nor to have fears, but to take the blessedness awaiting us now in this presence of our God.

XXII

Heavenly Father, whose Life is Love, whose Will is Right, not for ease we pray, but for strength to cease to do evil, to learn to do well. Be thy great blessings health unto us in spirit, and strength to watch, to pray, to live.

XXIII

O Divine Love, who containest all, thy peace be with us, and with all men. May we know thee, our Father; to walk then in gentleness and with lowly mind; to behold what is good, and to do it. We would do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with God.

XXIV

Father in Heaven, may we know of thee, and have strength. We would follow thy voice in us, and obey, not with eye-service, but heartily. Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, may we think of these things.

XXV

Holy Eternal One, thou hast shown us what is good and what thou dost require of us, to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God. Great peace have they who love thy law, and nothing can offend them.

XXVI

Father of Light, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning, from thee cometh down every good and perfect gift. Thy perfect providence is over all. Infinite Love, help us to depart from evil and do good. Thou dost bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

XXVII

Blessed be thou, O God, because thine infinite goodness never ceases even to the ungrateful and to those who are turned far from thee. Turn thou us unto thee that we may be lowly of mind, grateful and good, clothed with kind service; for thou art our home and our strength.

XXVIII

Praise be to thee, Father of all, who callest in the evening and openest the gates of the morning. Thou changest times and seasons; thou settest stars in their watches; thou leadest forth the day. In this day, which thou makest for us, may we reverence thy holy law within us, that we be not put to shame by our deeds.

XXIX

Blessed be thy name, O Eternal, Giver and Guardian of life, by whom is the earth and all that is therein, the peace of the evening, the sleep of the night, the awaking of the morning in strength, and the labor of the day! True praise be within us unto thee, O Lord!

XXX

Heavenly Father, we live in thee. Thou makest summer and winter, the spring and the autumn, the various and fourfold year. The darkness and the light are both alike to thee. We work by thy strength, we sleep in thy care; and when we awake, we are still with thee. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory.

XXXI

Father, thou art Eternity! And of thee is Time! And of thee are we, thy children. Thy children, who of thee have Time, look up to thee Who art Eternity.

XXXII

Praise to thee, O Lord, who with majesty rulest in all things. Us thou dost preserve and upbear as on pinions of eagles. Thou upholdest us, lest of ourselves we fall. Verily, have we not known it?

XXXIII

Father in heaven, these words which thou hast commanded us this day—let them be in our hearts. Let us talk of them in our dwellings. When we lie down, and when we arise, and when we walk by the way, let them be a sign to our eyes and a path to our feet.

XXXIV

Our Father, who art Infinite Mercy, thou bringest joys and thou givest sorrows. Let them be holy unto us, as from thee. Be our hearts searched, to become thy dwelling place. Neither to forget sorrows, nor not to feel them, pray we; but to be faithful unto them: and in them and in joys to live unto thee.

XXXV

Father in heaven, thy peace be upon us. Thy peace be upon us: The peace of God which passeth all understanding be upon us. Blessed art thou who without ceasing preservest us. Hymn and music, praise and thanksgiving, prayer and faithfulness forevermore be unto thee.

XXXVI

Blessed be thou, Father of all Mercy, who continuest to pour thy benefits upon us. Thou hast given us the blessings of this life, and of immortal being. O, Lord, thy blessings hang in clusters, they come trooping upon us! They break forth like mighty waters on every side! Be thy goodness health and strength unto us, that we be thankful, dutiful and holy.

XXXVII

Praise to thee, O Lord, who preparest my way in thy wisdom. When my strength fails, thou keepest my feet for thy love's sake. In what great need hath not the merciful God spread wings over his children!

XXXVIII

Father, hallowed be thy name! Thy name is the Infinite, Eternal, All-holy, All-merciful, who renewest daily in loving-kindness the work of creation.

XXXIX

Let us know thy ways, our Father; teach us thy paths. Lead us in thy truth and teach us. Open thou our eyes, that we may behold wonderful things out of thy law.

XL

Father, we glorify thy name, praised by all the voices of earth and the hosts of heaven; and we call one to another, Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts! Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy great glory.

XLI

We are thy children, Lord; let our thoughts be of eternal things. Make thyself known to us in our silent thoughts, that we may praise thee whom no praise can attain unto. May we run with patience the race which is set before us, which is our reasonable service; and exalt praise in very truth, reaching forth unto our heavenly calling.

XLII

Because I am still weak in love and imperfect in virtue, visit thou me and instruct me in thy holy ways. Help me to be of clean hands and pure heart; that, being healed and cleansed within, I may be made ready to love, strong to labor, steadfast to endure, rejoicing in faith.

XLIII

The Statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart. The commandments of the Lord are pure, giving light unto the eyes. Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer.

XLIV

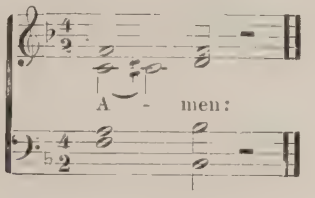
Speak thou to me, O Eternal Truth, lest I die and bring forth no fruit, being outwardly admonished but not enkindled within; lest thy word heard but not followed, known but not loved, accepted but not obeyed, rise up against me.

XLV

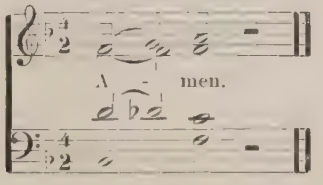
Holy fervor riseth in me, O Lord, when I hear the voices of my fellow-children in thee, united in praise to thee, to praise thy name, O Eternal. Direct my heart, O Father, unto true prayer.

AMEN.

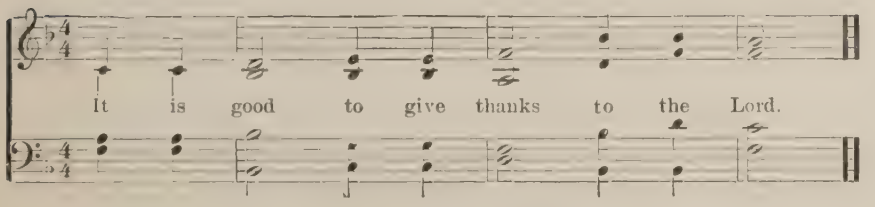
O! be our prayer simpleness, truthfulness, to live unto God holily —



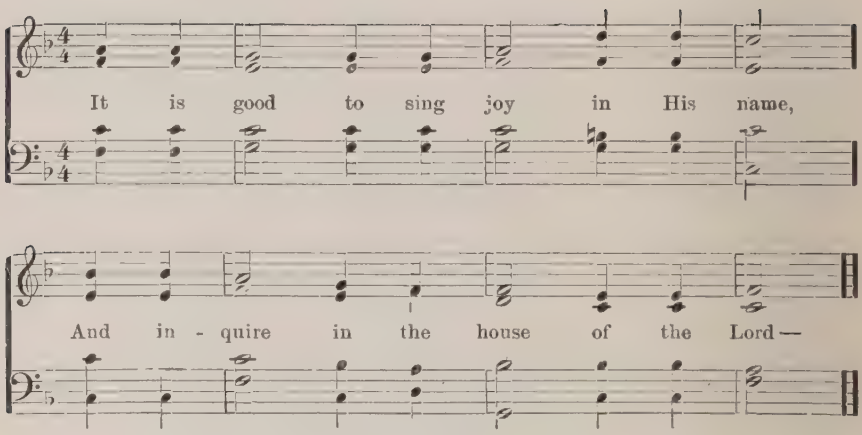
And one to another faithfully in heart and deed, in the unity of the spirit —



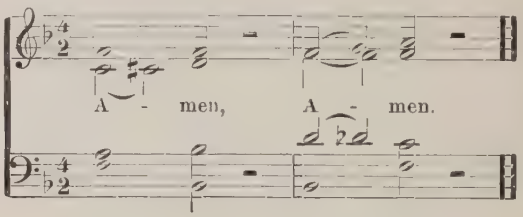
Be it good for us to be here :



Be this house Peace ;



To do his will from the heart :



BENEDICTION.

The Lord be with you:

The Lord bless thee.

OF THIS BOOK:

THE AIM.

It has been the aim and wish to make this book serviceable for worship to any church without attaching thereto any form, order, or manner of the use of it. Therefore the casting of the parts into forms or orders of service has been avoided. It is a book, not of services, but of elements of worship. Congregations can combine and use these elements according to their own customs or feelings. They can use some and not use others, at pleasure, without being inconvenienced therein by the necessity of departing from printed forms or by encountering rubrics disagreeing with their usages or wishes. The division into two Parts, called The Assembling and The Parting—intended to come respectively before the sermon and after the sermon—is the only conspicuous trace of the manner of using the book in the church in which it has arisen. We hope this one special feature, which was essential to our own purpose in the book, will not disturb a church, if any, which may use these divisions differently.

THE MUSIC.

This has been the most difficult part of the work. Religious music for the congregation must be equally far from elaboration, difficulty, inaptness to the people's sympathy and understanding, and from triviality, lightness, meagreness. It must be simple, high, severe, devout, beautiful, and *truly expressive of the words;* to obtain which last virtue with sureness there is no way but that the music must be *composed for* the words, by a musician whose heart and mind, as well as musical capacity, are equal to such a work. All the music has been supervised by the organist of the church, Mr. J. Franklin Hughes, and the greater portion of it is of his composition, namely, the music on pages 8, 20 to 27 inclusive, 32 to 37 inclusive, 78, 82, IX. to 84 inclusive, 93 and 94.

SOURCES OF THE RESPONSE-READINGS.

In the Response-Readings, each passage from one source is designated by being contained between periods, the responses therein being stopped with colons. All passages not otherwise marked (by an initial letter at the end) are from the Bible, in common

wholly from the Bible, but rarely (perhaps in three or four instances) with a slight admixture of other words or of Biblical phraseology combined in non-Biblical sentences. Other sources are designated by initial italic capitals at the end of each passage, thus:

A.....Aurelius.	*I*.....“Imitation of Christ.”
Ag.....Augustine.	*K*.....Koran.
Ap.....Apocrypha of Bible.	*M*.....Modern Sources
B.....Buddhist.	*R*.....Rabbinical.
C.....Confucius.	*S*.....Socrates.
E.....Epictetus.	*T*.....Tauler.
H.....Hindu.	*Z*.....Zoroastrian.

BENEDICTION.

This simple ancient pastoral benediction (Ruth II., 4) we have taken because we like to bless our minister as well as to receive his blessing. It is followed by the minister's own words or adopted form of benediction, as usual in our churches.

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